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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 41 Number 1 January · February 1988



Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

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AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$13.50, USA only. All other countries \$15.50. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$13.50; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check..

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Mr. John E. (Jack) Wilson, 6139 Willowick Lane, Springfield, VA 22152.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Mr. Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

AVSA EMBLEMS: Member, Past President, President, Life Member, Judge pins, charms, tie tacks. Own and wear them with pride. Order from AVSA office.

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BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Jan. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Mrs. R. A. Chase, 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061 by Sept. 1.

PROGRAM: Jan. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 1490 Saturn St., Merritt Island, FL 32953.

If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 1490 Saturn St., Merritt Island, FL 32953.

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JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send \$1.00 payable to AVSA to Mrs. James S. Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from Bob L. Green, 997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 39255. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, 1596 Pipkin Street, Beaumont, TX 77705, Office, 409-835-6008.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates and copy information write: Mrs. Meredith Hall, 922 East 14th Street, Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

ARTICLES by READERS, COLUMNISTS and COMING EVENTS: Send to Editor. See above for address.

DEADLINES - ARTICLES: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

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MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 4 (1983) \$3.00 postpaid. A must for judges, exhibitors, serious growers. Describes all varieties registered to July, 1983 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from June, 1976 to July, 1983. Order from Beaumont office.

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

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PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

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VIOLET SEARCH: Send your name, address, name of plant and hybridizer of older varieties to: Judith Kingsbury, Rt. 1, Box 118, Clayton, WI 54404.



African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 41 Number 1

January/February 1988

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

COVER - To start off the New Year — something a little different — 'Little Rose Quartz' an entrant in the Most Unusual Container Class at the 1987 Orlando convention, shown by Norma Leto of Tampa, Florida.

(Kodachrome film developed by Total Chrome, Inc., Hollywood, FL)

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

Membership runs one year from date paid and includes six issues of the African Violet Magazine - Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept. and Nov. Check membership desired.

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New Member Renewal



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OFFICERS

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6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731

MRS. ARTHUR F. BOLAND, 1st Vice President

6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310

MR. A. CHARLES BOLLAR, 2nd Vice President

17055 Community St., Northridge, CA 91325

MRS. J. R. PITTMAN, 3rd Vice President

12401 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233

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392 Penn.-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534

MRS. JOHN HAYES, Treasurer

9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK TINARI

2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE

211 Allien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor

1596 Pipkin, Beaumont, TX 77705

MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.

922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009

NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager

P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

BOB GREEN, Publications Chairman

997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955

COLUMNISTS

David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Ellie Bogin, Margaret Waggespack, Norita Hallum, Betty Tapping, Hugh Mackey, Marie Burns, Bill Foster, Nancy Hayes, Nancy Lawrence, Linda Neumann, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson and Lyndall Owens

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Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Rte. 1, Prescott, WI 54021

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Mrs. John Chase (Mary) Reed, 17124 NE 29th Place,

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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

A Happy New Year to everyone in 1988. I hope your African violet hobby will bring you much joy and satisfaction during the coming year.

The excitement and exhilaration of the holidays has passed, and the time has come to make final plans for our Affiliate shows. January meetings are a good time to include a review of the spring show schedules for the benefit of new exhibitors. Tips by seasoned exhibitors on grooming show plants, proper wrapping of pots, correct procedures for classifying and entering exhibits would be most beneficial to the novice growers within the Affiliates. A good New Year's resolution would be to share your knowledge with Affiliate members; this might also result in a Blue Rosette for your Club's show. Be sure to refer to the Strictly Business page of the magazine for information on ordering culture folders from the Office to distribute to the public at your spring shows.

Please mark April 10-17 on your calendar as the dates for the "Grand Reunion in Texas," i.e., the 1988 AVSA Dallas Convention! Check the registration material and publicity in this issue of the magazine regarding the programs, workshops and tours, planned for your enjoyment. Ample space in the showroom will be provided to display all your beautiful show plants and designs. I think you will find Dallas to be a most hospitable city and that everyone in the State of Texas will make every effort toward making your visit a memorable occasion.

An AVSA Executive Board meeting was held in Beaumont last October to set goals and make plans for the coming year. Extra curricular activities included touring the AVSA Office and viewing, firsthand, the office procedures handled so efficiently by Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, and her staff, Patsy LeDoux and Trisha Moyer. If you should have occasion to contact the Office, I know you will find all of these ladies to be most courteous and willing to be of assistance in every way possible.

It was also enlightening to have our editor, Jane Birge, show us the procedures involved in editing and typesetting the material she receives for inclusion in the African Violet Magazine. A few blocks from the Office, we were given a tour by Albert McKinley, our Printer, through the maze of heavy duty printing presses in operation at Becker Printing Company. It was quite interesting to see the presses roll out the final pages of the November issue just prior to its being assembled for mailing.

Good ol' Texas hospitality (from our AVSA friends) was present in every element of our visit. On our arrival at the hotel, we were delighted to find a beautiful African violet sent to each Board member by J.C. & Lenora Munk of Munk's African Violet Shop in Houston. Then, on Saturday, it was a special privilege to be able to visit and enjoy a luncheon hosted by the Mid-County AVC, AVC of Beaumont, Four Seasons AVC and the AV Culture Club—all from the Jefferson County area. As usual, wherever African violet hobbyists congregate, there is always a lot of enthusiasm and exchange of ideas.

*On Sunday we found ourselves on an expedition, hosted by Bobby Whitman and Warren Loose of the other international plant society based in Beaumont — The Cryptanthus Society. Bobby and Warren presented each board member with a *Cryptanthus bivittatus 'Pink Starlight'*, and gave us a most informative tour through their lovely gardens, appropriately called, "Southern Exposure." From there we were taken on a tour of the Garden Center at Tyrrell Park by representatives of the*

Beaumont Council of Garden Clubs.

To top off the weekend, we had a 'welcomed' surprise visit from our Editor Emeritus, Grace Foote and our previous, long time printer, Gus Becker and his wife Maxine. All of us would like to express our congratulations to Gus and Maxine on their 50th wedding anniversary this month.

The hospitality of everyone in the Beaumont area was indeed appreciated.

The response from individuals, affiliates and councils in making generous donations to the Building Fund has been very gratifying. Nell-Sue Tyson, Chairman, is to be commended for her diligence in promoting contributions to the Fund. She has spent many hours acknowledging letters and checks and maintaining up-to-date records.

May I stress again that I would like to hear from individual AVSA members, as well as the affiliates, about your concerns. Your suggestions and constructive criticisms will be acknowledged and carefully studied by the committees involved. We are here to serve you and the Society to the best of our ability.

Happy growing to all,

Frances Young

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

***Nancy Lawrence
Office Manager***

RENEWAL TIME: Individual and Associate Members

Well it's that time of the year again, when the majority of our members renew. If your membership expires 02/29/88, you will be receiving a renewal notice from us very soon. If you are not certain about the date your membership expires, take a look at the membership card you receive on your magazine. The expiration date will be printed on the card, underneath "African Violet Society of America, Inc."

If your membership expires 02/29/88, the March AVM will be the last magazine you will receive until you renew. The May AVM will be the first magazine sent to you for the new year; so please be sure to get your renewal in before the end of February; but, please wait until you receive your renewal notice to renew.

We would like to thank all of those Affiliates and

Commercial members who cooperated in getting in their renewals early. It makes our work easier, and more accurate to handle these accounts before the thousands of individual renewals arrive. If you haven't sent your renewal in yet — please hurry — we appreciate your help.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL AFFILIATES:

A questionnaire will be sent from this office in January to each affiliate president. It is of the utmost importance that each club give their attention to the matters discussed, and that the questions are answered and returned to this office. We will appreciate your cooperation.

All of us here at the AVSA office would like to wish all of you a "Happy Growing, Happy New Year!"

Nancy Lawrence, Jane Birge, Patsy LeDoux and Trisha Moyer

AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

*David Buttram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051
(816) 461-6086 or 373-4679*



Swifts' African Violets

"It was about 22 years, maybe 21 years ago. I don't remember exactly how long ago it was," answered June Swift to my first question of the afternoon, "When did you start growing African violets?"

"It started when Charlyne gave me some violets. She had come to the convention here in Dallas with Ralph in '64. I think it was '64. Anyway, she brought me 12 violets." Charlyne is June's sister and with her husband, Ralph, have operated The House of Violets in Camden, Arkansas for many years.

"Jack and I went with them to the commercial sales room and were impressed. Then we put our violets under lights like Charlyne did."

These words sound familiar — a family member or friend gives away a few leaves or plants or perhaps someone sees a beautiful display of blooming plants at a local show or convention. There is no need for a sales pitch or any other inducement, the plants sell themselves to people.

Within six to eight months of growing, June began to sell plants. While June is an obviously successful grower of African violets, she did not allow any grass to grow under her feet.

"I hated selling that first one to a florist," remembers June. "I wondered who got it and worried about it for two or three days." June's business partner and husband, Jack, remembers it too, "It's like selling one of your children."

June attributes her early success to an automatic watering pot that sister Charlyne was selling. More on this later. "That's probably the reason I started growing them. They were easy to care for in the self-watering pots."

June is well known for the many excellent hybrids she has produced. She shares her credit, "The

first seeds I grew were Lyndon Lyon seeds. I was so impressed with what I got that I wanted to do it. That must have been in, oh my goodness, I am guessing '69 or '70. I could look it up on my computer.

"It was so exciting."

When I asked about her first cross, she replied, "I don't remember, but it's in the computer." As a meticulous record keeper and her Macintosh computer with a Microsoft program, June can tell you just about anything you want to know about her hybrids.

How long did she have to make crosses before she had one she was proud of? "Oh, the very first one I



Jack and June Swift proudly display one of their award winning hybrids.

think, more so than all the subsequent crosses. But it was a couple of years before I got interesting ones. Of course, at that time there were not as many interesting plants. Now it is very difficult to get a different, interesting plant. There are so many around.

"It used to be that you would have to settle for that beautiful bloom or nice foliage. Now it is more common to see both qualities in a plant."

'Glacier Point' was June's first hybrid to win a national award. It won Third Best Introduction in San Francisco in 1971 and was particularly unique at that time for being such a strong single. It was transported from Dallas to San Francisco with almost no loss of bloom.

Inspired by the reception of her hybrids, June opened a retail African violet shop in a nearby shopping center. She believes that she was one of the first to grow and sell African violets in such a location. The shop thrived for six years before being sold to Susan Whitaker who ran it as Susan's Violets for seven years.

With some changes in their house, June has cut back on her hybridizing and only grows starter plants for convention sales. She does continue to sell leaves

by mail order only.

The retail shop was an excellent means of meeting new people and many of the Swifts' friends are the result of the shop. Jack mentioned, "Bill Foster was one of June's first customers." (Bill Foster is AVSA Affiliate Chairman and Convention Chairman of the 1988 Dallas AVSA Convention in April.) June wonders if Bill would have become so involved had he not bought plants from the shop.

"Most of the members of the First Nighter AVC that I belong to were either my customers or Susan's. It just multiplies, you know, when you tell other people."

Back to hybridizing: June appreciates the many contributions of Lyndon Lyon and the tradition carried on by Paul and Sidney Sorano. Hugh Eyerdam of Granger Gardens is important because he has introduced such huge blossoms.

Now to Jack who has waited patiently to share his side of the business. Jack is largely responsible for the development of the Moist-Rite planter, drawing on his experience as an artist and technician in the field of mechanical calculators.

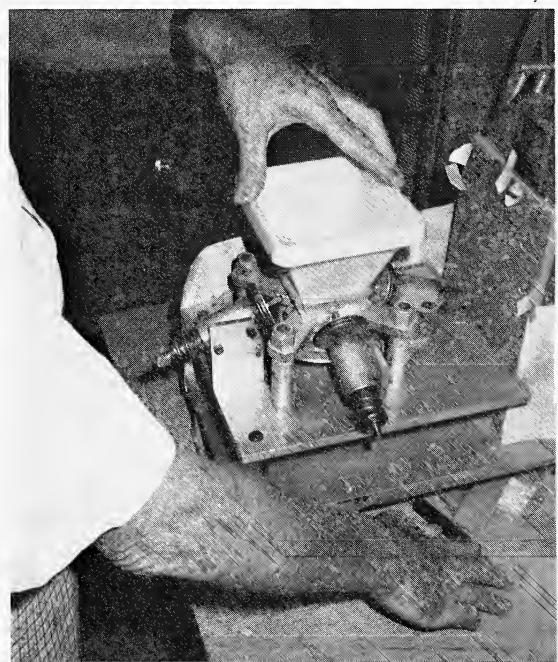
The development of the Moist-Rite was one of those peculiar turn of events that people cannot plan for. The Swifts and Reeds were selling another type of self-watering pot, but were having trouble with cracks, leaks, and slow delivery from the factory. "We would never have invented Moist-Rite if they had done a good job on the other pot. Simply put, there was a need and we tried to fill it.

"We talked with patent attorneys. We would stop at a restaurant before church and make sketches. We had in mind an edge that would not be considered a leaf support. The square shape came about as it is easier to grasp than a round pot and holds as much water."

The Moist-Rite is the result of several prototypes and experiments. It is the only planter that operates on a vacuum principle that virtually makes overwatering impossible. Due to four tiny holes near the inner base, water is released only as needed.

Jack and June strongly emphasize that the directions accompanying the Moist-Rites should be followed for optimum results. The many award winning displays at local, regional, and national convention attest to the efficacy of this very fine product.

It is interesting to note that because of the vacuum principle involved, seeds can be started, seedlings



This specially designed device drills four holes simultaneously in the inner wall to allow the plant to "draw" water as needed. The holes are drilled by #67 bits which measure about 1/30,000".

transplanted, as well as starter plants, with no fertilizer burn or damping off due to too much water. This is not true of various forms of wicking.

Finally, after all the experimenting and leg work was finished, Moist-Rites were introduced to the African violet public in 1973 with patent pending. They are available in green, black, and white which is by far the most favored.

June gladly shared her soil formula: "It is approximately equal parts of vermiculite, perlite, Sunshine peat, other kinds of peat are OK, but I use Sunshine brand, and Baccto Potting Soil.

"This is the formula I use, although the last three or four years I have used straight vermiculite, but it does use water a little faster.

"I feed my plants every time I water. In fact, I have always used constant feeding from day one. Even before anyone was doing it, I was, because we were using the self-watering planters and I had to do something to not burn the plants."

"What kind of plant fertilizer are you using now?" I asked. "It is bottled under our name, J and J's African Violet food. It's a liquid and it is the old Green Thumb Formula (4-10-6). It is milder than other fertilizers on the market but it works well with our system of growing."

Sister Charlyne and June finally were able to convince sister Phles (pronounced Flez) of the beauty of the African violet. Now Phles and her husband, Warren, sell plants at AVSA conventions and in their home area of Texarkana, Arkansas.

The three sisters have a unique custom. At the suggestion of Ralph Reed, the three of them took a vacation together. With their families grown, an annual "Sisters' Trip" is taken and will continue as long as at least two of them are able to go. The vacation is from African violets, homes, pets, and husbands. Ralph remarks in a good natured manner that he didn't intend for them to take a vacation *every* year.

The growing room adjacent to the work area where the Moist-Rites are assembled is immaculate. No routine spraying is necessary; however, June uses Raid House and Garden Inspect Spray "... just once in a while whenever I think I should."

June's most popular hybrids are also her personal favorites: 'French Lilac,' 'Dumplin,' and 'Betcha.' The latter was the nickname given to June's mother by her daughter. Grandmother, it seems, like to say, "I betcha I can do..." or "I betcha we can play..."

Soon the little girl began to associate "Betcha" with grandmother and the name is an appropriate tribute with its beautiful white double bloom with a wine edge on ruffled foliage.

To summarize the interview, June said it all: "African violets are fun. The conventions are hard work but worth it because of the many friends we have made over the years."

Jack and June Swift have made significant contributions to AVSA and the entire African violet area. AVSA recognized these accomplishments by awarding them the Bronze Medal at the 1979 convention in Denver, Colorado.

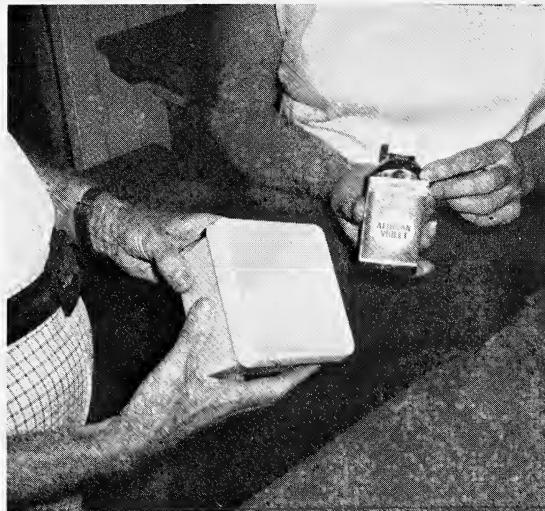
All too quickly my time was gone and I had other obligations. Backing out of the driveway away from the recently remodeled house in northeast Dallas and heading down the tree lined street belied the activity that goes on inside the Swift home as orders for Moist-Rites and leaves continue to be filled.

Dallas is one of my favorite cities. Next issue we will come back to visit what began as a weekend project and turned into, well, you'll see in March.

Recently I was asked how much a commercial member has to pay for an interview. Someone else



June shows two pieces of high impact polystyrene plastic which will be glued together creating a reservoir between the inner and outer walls.



The Moist-Rite and J and J's Plant Food for African violets.

wrote asking how I could be objective when I am being paid to write articles. I am not paid anything by anyone. The interviews are done at my own expense. Often I have been able to conduct interviews in conjunction with business trips which take me across the country. My real pay comes from the satisfaction of introducing you to the people who supply you with African violets and supplies and the words of kindness and appreciation I receive from readers.

From the Commercial Members of AVSA: Have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

AVSA Booster Fund

*Mrs. Linda A. Neumann
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Send Your Choices For Best Varieties

*Mrs. Leon Fiedler
Best Varieties Chairman
Route 1
Prescott, WI 54021*

How often have you asked which violets perform the very best? For answers to this question, check the Best Varieties List compiled from lists of favorites from members of affiliate clubs and commercial members.

Now is the time to send your 1988 choices of best performing violets; they must be in by April 1. Please don't put AVSA to the expense of asking for a list by letter. Plan an interesting program on Best Varieties.

An individual is limited to 25 choices. If you grow just a few violets, then your list will be short. A club is not limited in any way. Every member should submit a list. Please **Do Not** send a list of 25 for an entire affiliate membership.

We are always delighted to receive lists in alphabetical order or compiled club lists in alphabetical order. Just be sure that all the choices of every member are included in the compiled list.

Many new varieties are not in the Master Variety List. If you are growing a violet not on the Master list, please send the name, description of the plant and the name of the hybridizer to Mary A. Boland.

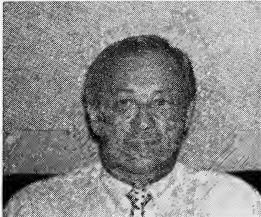
Be sure the list you send includes your name and address. Should the list be choices of a club, please be sure to state how many members voted and how many votes each variety received. Please include the name of the club.

Who should send a list? Each and every AVSA member, each and every affiliate club member, and each commercial member.

Many thanks to every club and AVSA member who sent their list in 1987 and for all the little extra notes. We will be eagerly awaiting your 1988 lists. Let's have a list from every AVSAer.

Send your lists before April 1, 1988 to:

*Mrs. Leon Fiedler
Route 1
Prescott, WI 54021*



Beginner's Forum

Hugh N. Mackey
299 Stockwood Drive
Woodstock, GA 30188

I asked myself the question — where does one begin when writing a column for beginners in floral design? Well—at the beginning—naturally. We all want to achieve as our goal, a blue ribbon design; therefore, as to all beginnings, we must learn the fundamentals. The basics to me are the mechanics.

I'd like to share with you some methods, hints, short cuts, etc., that I have learned through reading, trial and error, making do with what was available, and from others who were willing to share.

For containers I use the basics: a tuna can or pet food can spray painted a flat color, preferably flat black; plastic or clay flower pot saucers; plain or smooth, slender aluminum cans, preferably without those little indented rings; and, of course, any other type of container you may have around the house that can hold water. Garage sales, thrift stores, flea markets, and yes, even department and jewelry stores are good sources for containers. Just remember, should you choose an expensive container, antique or heirloom, you are taking a risk on breakage or theft.

Now that you have chosen a container, the next question to ask yourself is, how am I going to anchor my materials? My favorite holder is the needlepoint, or pin holder as some may call them. Your needlepoint should have erect and sharp prongs and sufficient weight. You may also use a glass frog, which has small round holes for plant material insertion. I don't recommend the frog because you don't have complete control of your materials. In the floral industry three types of holders are mainly used: Oasis, which is submerged in water for saturation, to hold live materials; Ultra foam or Sahara foam for dried materials, and Styrofoam for materials to be inserted that usually have metal or wood picks secured to the ends of the stem for insertion.

If you are using one of the foam materials, be sure each is anchored. Oasis can be anchored by making a criss-cross over the Oasis with adhesive tape and pressed firmly against the sides of the container. Ultra foam or Sahara foam can be hot glued to the container, even to glass, provided the hot glue is placed on the foam first and wait 30 seconds or so, to let the glue cool somewhat, before placing it next to glass. Styrofoam can be secured by using a floral adhesive, by the brand name of Cling or Stickum.

The needlepoint is still my favorite due to the size and weight. Should there be doubt about your needlepoint having sufficient weight, just stick a small piece of floral adhesive to the bottom, press the needlepoint onto your container and give it a slight twist. This will secure your needlepoint to the container and you won't have to worry about your arrangement tilting or falling over.

Now that you have chosen your container and your means of an anchor, you are ready to start your design. I start with my line material first, then my foliage, if any is to be used, and I usually do use it in order to conceal the mechanics; and then my blossoms. For line material that has a wide or thick base, I normally tie or wrap a wooden wired floral pick around the base, making sure that I have enough wire remaining to wrap around the pick itself. Should you run short of wire, then wrap the pick and plant material with floral tape; this will bind the two together (*figure 1*). A wooden pick takes up much



Figure 1.

less space than a thick based stem. For better securement a pick can be hot glued into the needlepoint, Ultra foam or Styrofoam and will expand when inserted into wet Oasis.

All foliage should be conditioned. Foliage with substance, such as ivy, yucca, magnolia, dracena, Norfolk Island pine, etc., should be completely submerged in water from 8 to 24 hours. Foliage such as African violet leaves for a much, much less time. Submerging foliage fills all pores with water; therefore allowing them to last the duration of the show. For extension of foliage, bend a small gauge wire, bottle pen style, (*figure 2*) inserting the two wire ends on either side of the main stem of the leaf, pull down snugly, and wrap the stem and the two wires with floral tape. For African violet foliage you can either insert a piece of wire up the main stem or make sort of an elongated loop for the back support of the leaf, and, of course, wrapping the stem and two wire ends with floral tape (*figure 3*).

Figure 2.

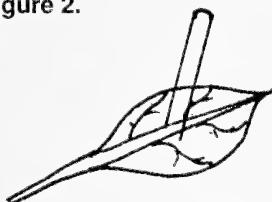
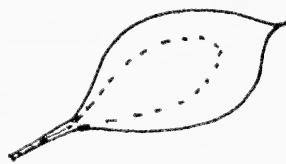


Figure 3.



Why are African violet blossom stems sometimes short and brittle? As a designer you not only have to be creative, you must also be innovative.

My favorite method for extending African violet blossoms is by wrapping a plastic drinking straw with floral tape. In order to make the drinking straw a water vessel, just squirt a little hot glue into one end of the straw, wait a minute or two and then press the glued end of the straw between your thumb and forefinger. After the straw is pressed it becomes thin and flared out somewhat, making the chisel end more easily inserted into your holder (*figure 4*). The straw can be cut any length; therefore by varying heights and by adding water with a medicine drop-

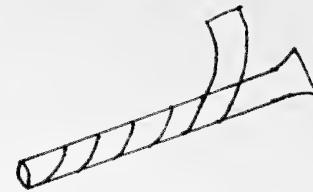


Figure 4.

per, you have a perfect extended water filled container.

Since this is my first article as a columnist, I too am considered a beginner. Since we are in the same boat together let's make an arrangement and take it to our next club meeting or enter it at our next show.

It is my intention, with the little hints just given, to make you feel more comfortable about making a design. I'm sure you have your own little hints or short cuts and should you want to share them, I'd be happy to try to use them in future articles. As beginners we need all of the help we can get.

In Memory of

Arline M. Tucker

Arline M. Tucker died August 22, 1987. She was a member of Central Connecticut African Violet Society and had been Treasurer for many years. She was also a member of Nutmeg State African Violet Society, as well as a member of AVSA.

We will all remember her willingness to help all of the societies.

—*Irene Traskers*

Betty Bratten

The Tidewater African Violet Society of Virginia has recently lost one of our most avid supporters due to the death of Elizabeth S. Bratten on October 17, 1987.

Mrs. Bratten was an energetic organizer of Tidewater AVS plant sales and she also served as Corresponding Secretary and Chairman of the Tidewater AVS plant project.

Her knowledge and work for the society will never be forgotten and she will be sadly missed.

—*Gail K. Rakes*

QUESTION BOX



*Mrs. John Hayes
9 Cobblestone Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002*



The hustle and bustle of the holidays is now over and hopefully none of us neglected our plants too much. Every time I get too involved in the holidays and barely throw water at my plants, I become envious of those well-organized people who NEVER do such a thing. I look at their near perfect show plants in the spring and say to myself, "There is a well disciplined individual who lovingly attended to plants *and* family at year's end."

Our cross-country trek to Colorado was the highlight of this past year. We enjoyed the hospitality of many of our violet friends as we traveled. I especially enjoyed our Ohio visits with family and friends. The trip to Granger Gardens was very pleasing. We had a brief visit with Jim Eyerdom and enjoyed hearing about the business and the first-hand tour through the greenhouses. Believe me, there are some lovely hybrids yet to come from Jim and Granger Gardens.

Our travels in the Kansas City area brought us to the Westin Crown Center where you will be entertained royally for the 1989 convention. We enjoyed the company of David Butram and Esther and Charles Wells at dinner.

This issue brings you up to date with the coming convention. Keep an eye on those deadlines — a trip to Dallas is a must — those Texans know how to treat you right!

Question: I seem to be having difficulty when potting up baby plants. They look good, have 6-8 leaves, but seem to wither and die after transplanting them from the mother leaf.

Answer: Upon inquiry this problem was rather simply solved and not the first time it has been presented. Someplace along the line this grower was told to remove all soil from the roots of the new babies. Obviously, in removing this soil, she was damaging tender new roots and these plantlets were

unable to recover. In addition, with exposed tender roots, she was fertilizing with full strength feeding to "give them a good start." There are many schools of thought in the feeding of babies, human and plant. There are many who do not fertilize small plants until they take hold after moving them from the mother leaf. Others use a very dilute feeding, being careful to not allow them to dry out. Fertilizing a dry small plantlet can cause burning of delicate feeder roots more quickly than with well-established plants. This is one of those areas that you will need to experiment with and do as you find what is best for you and your conditions. So much of what we do for our plants depends on our environmental conditions and also much to personal choice. Most choices will be fine. It is a bit like discussing spaghetti and brownie recipes in a room full of people. You will probably find as many different recipes as you have people, and they are all likely to be good.

Question: What is my chance of hybridizing something very special with my trial and error method of crossing?

Answer: I have a friend who often uses the phrase, "anything is possible." Professional hybridizers and hobbyists have been playing around with our beloved African violet for many years and we enjoy those results each day as we look at the beautiful hybrids presented in such array each year. The genetics of the African violet are most complicated and genes that have heretofore been hidden just might make an appearance at any time and help you to create a very new and exciting plant. Many will tell you that there needs to be careful research in selecting crosses, but others will go at it haphazardly and produce new and different and stable crosses. I would suggest that you do some reading before you venture further into the exciting, and sometimes exasperating, business of hybridizing. There have

been many excellent articles in our own magazine over the years that you can find by using your cumulative index found in each January issue. Of course you will also want to absorb notes from our own Bill Johnson's column, "Ask Your Hybidizer!". Melvin Robey's book, African Violets - Queens of the Indoor Gardening Kingdom, has an excellent section on creation of new varieties.

Question: I have some very special plants that I do not want to throw out. I have been told that I have soil mealy bug and that I cannot get rid of it with anything. Help?

Answer: True, many would recommend throwing out and starting over. Soil mealy bug is not easy to eradicate. Many profess that you only control them, not kill them. I have been told by several reliable commercial growers that they have seen good results with growers use of Knox-out. They use 2 T. to one gallon of warm water and drench the soil well, once a week for three weeks. Give it a try.

Question: I love my trailers but once in a while one of them gets unruly and I am not sure what to do with one crown that is substantially larger than the others. This seems to occur with my smaller trailers such as Pixie Blue.

Answer: I have had that happen with that variety and also with my 'Nancy Hayes' variety. If you have pinched out the centers well and have many crowns, you can simply pull out that crown with larger leaves; move the other crowns around to fill the hole and stake them with plant markers, wire pins, etc. You can remove the stakes or pins in a few days and you will have filled the gap. You might also have a crown appear that has smaller leaves than the others. If it is too unsightly it can be removed in the same fashion.

Question: I have a semiminiature trailer that has absolutely filled a four inch pot. A violet friend said that I could not exhibit a small trailer in a large pot. Is that true?

Answer: Absolutely not! There were some gorgeous trailers at this years convention show in Orlando — miniature and semiminiature varieties just overflowing *large* pots. The classification of the plant in trailers has nothing to do with the size of pot. It should all be in proportion, but does not have to be in smaller pots like miniature and seminiature single crown plants.

Question: I was told recently that it was a rule that glue guns could not be used in African violet blos-

som arranging. I have read and re-read the judges handbook section on design and can find no such rule. What would you suggest?

Answer: My first thought would be to write to Emilie Savage, but your question triggered a memory of reading such, and indeed it was in her column. I would say, at best, this is a very controversial subject and once again I am going to take a stand that may not be legal or popular. I would hazard a guess that if all designs in the northeast were disqualified due to use of a glue gun, we would have very small, if non existent, entries. It should be a very well known fact that glue guns were used in MANY arrangements that garnered top prizes at the national convention. If you study underwater designs carefully, you will see that there would be no other way but a glue gun to create some of the perfectly exquisite designs being exhibited in many parts of the country. I admit that using it for other than underwater is tricky, but I have used it myself and have had blossoms last two days. I am told by some who have used the glue gun for several years that if you are careful to not burn the back of a bloom and merely "seal" it, it will last at least two days.

You are correct in saying that it is not in the handbook and I believe that it was in May of 1986 that Mrs. Savage stated that it could not be used, but I do not recall a specific discussion outlawing the use of such. Obviously this needs to be clarified and I will get back to you at a later date after corresponding with Mrs. Savage. This question was not an isolated one; it has come up several times recently.

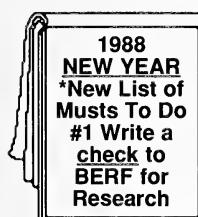
Question: Upon entering my underwater design I was told that I had to get "rid of those air bubbles." Upon attempting to do so, I ruined my design and was quite upset. How can this type of confrontation be prevented in the future?

Answer: This club no longer had an active judge working on entries and classification. I suggested that she show them a copy of the judges handbook which clearly states that we do not deduct points for air bubbles. I have been approached before about the legality of air bubbles. I have often wished that I could intentionally place air bubbles about my African violet blossoms because it lends a special effect to the design. Admittedly, air bubbles completely covering the sides of the container can be distracting, but are NOT illegal.

Question: Should I take special precautions with plants returned home from a show?

Answer: Many do, some don't, which is at great risk. There are some who will not bring a show plant back home. I think that is drastic. Our egos being what they are, we don't want to discard that show stopper, particularly if it is your first big time winner. Heavy blooming plants for shows, particularly the newer heavier blooming varieties, need to be disbudded to allow the center leaves to "breath" again and retain proper alignment. With the huge bouquets of bloom that so many plants produce, those center leaves are likely to be out of shape and those may be your outside leaves for the next show. If you have been forcing them with longer than usual hours of light, it would be wise to cut back gradually, rather

than to go from 16 hours of light to 10-12. I would suggest cutting back an hour or so each week until you resume your normal growing time, until show time once again. Many isolate these plants to prevent bringing back pests from adjoining show plants. I feel this is a must. We would like to think that all plants are clean at a show, but that is not always the case. In deference to the other grower, evidence of pests may not have shown prior to entering the show. Some show rooms are extremely warm and hurry these "things" along. Isolation, or if you wish, preventative spraying or use of pesticides, should be considered. I would opt for a good isolation procedure.



Boyce Edens Research Fund

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Japanese Technique for Growing African Violet Trailers

By Chisako Kisamore, Tokyo, Japan
English translation edited by Pauline Bartholomew

Editor's Notes: The preparation of this article for publication in the U.S. has been delayed for almost two years. The language barrier plus the lack of time and opportunity to question the growers has been very frustrating. It was a little difficult for me to decipher the translation so I interviewed various expert trailer growers during my trips to Japan. I still have many questions as I'm sure you will have. I can only tell you that I have related all I know. Some of the growers practice acupuncture (piercing the stem 1/2" below the crowns with stainless steel needles) but Mrs. Kisamore made no mention of doing so when I interviewed her. It would be great if she could come to the U.S. and do a workshop at an AVSA convention.

In Tokyo this year I was given a size assortment of the containers they use for trailers. The containers are white plastic and look like potted-plant saucers except that they are straight-sided. They range in size from 10" wide x 2 1/2" deep to 18" wide x 4" deep. They are prepared by burning holes around the bottom at 2" intervals. On the larger saucers, a second row was made mid-center. They are planted Texas-Style and placed in trays or large saucers and watered from the bottom. The soil is mounded slightly in a dome-shape. These containers are used for the final potting-up processes after the plant has progressed from the initial 2 1/2" and 6" pots. Someone mentioned that oil drip pans would make suitable substitutes.

Creeping-Type Trailers

First of all, remove the lower foliage of the young plantlet of the variety you have chosen. In a 2 1/2" pot, place the soil mix around the nodes of the removed leaves and up to the bottom of the remaining leaves (figures 1 & 2). Expose the plant to rather strong fluorescent light (the center of the tubes) from directly above so new suckers will form evenly. Strong light will keep the foliage compact and buds

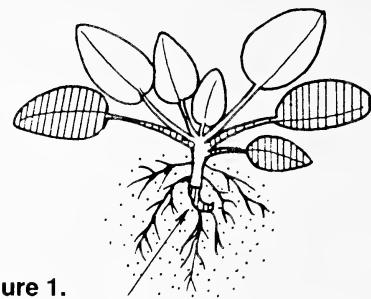


Figure 1.

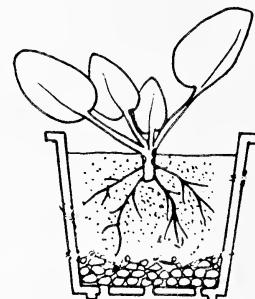


Figure 2.

will form sooner.

When the buds show color (figure 3), carefully remove them and new suckers will grow at this junction. If a bud is removed before it is big enough, the stem does not have enough growth and new suckers will be delayed. Also, if the joint is damaged when the bud is removed, it may damage the start of

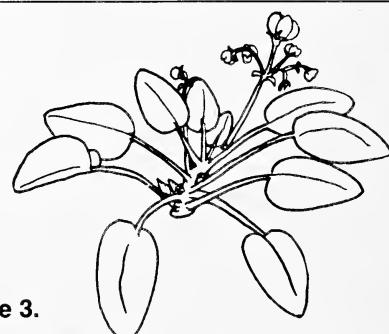


Figure 3.

a new bud which can then form a new sucker after it has been removed.

When several suckers are evident, reduce the amount of light so the crowns (suckers) will elongate. Allow the center crown to bloom so strength goes to the off-shoots. During this stage, put the plant in good natural light and turn the plant 90 degrees every day. As crowns (suckers) develop, old foliage near the base of the suckers prohibit their growth so remove old foliage. A stem (trailing crown) which is growing straight, has a tendency to grow the fastest. Thus pinning the stem in contact with the soil causes it to root and helps retard the growth of the center crown. Also allowing the center crown to blossom helps it to grow more slowly.

It is now time to transplant into a larger pot (figure 4). Spread the crowns in spoke-fashion around the



Figure 4.

pot. Remove the leaves from along the bottom of the stems and pin the stems to the soil. Roots will form and grow into the soil along the length of the trailing stem. Also remove a few leaves from the lower portion of the stem so new suckers will form and fill in the foliage (figures 5). I use aluminum bonsai pins. Completely disbud. The plant will then grow faster

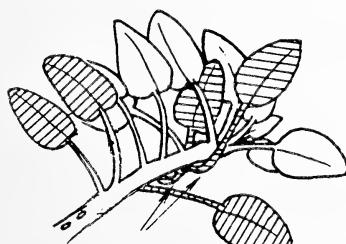


Figure 5 a.

and new suckers will form more readily.

When each trailing stem (crown) is big enough (about 2" over the edge of the pot), transplant it to a larger pot. After a certain length of time, the foliage should be thick and lots of buds will be showing. It

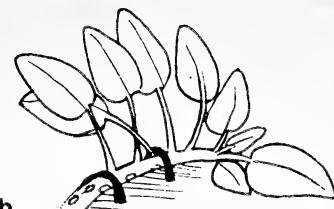


Figure 5 b.

should then be about an 18" show plant. Of course, the size of the plant will depend on the variety. 'Violet Trail,' 'Mellow Trail,' 'Tucson Trail,' 'Ramblin' Blue,' and S. pendula, will take three to five months. Others such as 'Wee Trail,' 'Pixie Blue,' 'Jet Trail,' 'Mohawk Trail,' and 'Happy Trail,' will take four to seven months.

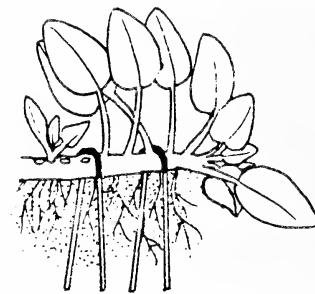


Figure 5 c.



Figure 5 d.

(Editor's note: the size progression of the pots was unclear. I suggest that you let your growing skills be your guide. Perhaps a vigorous, multi-crowned trailer in a 2 1/2" pot to a 6" shallow pot, and then on to a 15" or so shallow pan.)



Pixie Blue

Bush-Type Trailers

Stems (crowns) of bush-type trailers don't grow as quickly so they do not need exposure to light from the top. As in the instructions for creeping-type trailers, remove the lower foliage and pot the plantlet up into a 2 1/2" pot. Place the plant in good natural light and turn it 90 degrees every day. Keep disbudding. New crowns (suckers) grow to about the same size as the center crown but usually only three to five new crowns will form. Both the center crown and the new crowns grow slowly upward. At this time allow buds to set. This will keep additional crowns from forming. If more crowns form, they will crowd each other out and the plant won't shape nicely.

When the stems of the crowns are about three to four inches, pot up to the next size pot. Remove the foliage along the underside of the stems and spread the stems evenly around the central crown. Pin them to the top of the soil. New roots and new crowns will grow at the base of each pinned crown. If leaves are lost due to the aging process, the stem of that part will not produce new growth. Unless suckers are formed on young stems, the stems around the center of the plant will lose leaves and there will be gaps because of the bare stems.

When the foliage has grown slightly over the edge of the pot, the pot is the correct size. If the pot is too big for the plant, too much salts build-up may damage foliage and blossoms. Stems of bush-type trailers don't fill in as much as creeping-type trailers so it is best not to use too deep a pot. The center of the plant should be about 4" inside the edge of the pot so new stems can creep on the soil and new roots can

grow until time for the next potting-up (a few months). Stems won't have roots if they are not in contact with the soil so the more stem that hangs over the edge of the pot, the fewer the roots.

In the case of creeping-type trailers, the stems can be pinned around the edge of the pot. Turn the tips just before they reach the edge of the pot and pin them inside the pot instead of allowing them to trail over the edge. However, bush-type trailers have strong, rigid stems that won't bend. That is why potting up to accommodate growth is required. Pin stems 2" from the edge of the pot, prune the tips, and multiple crowns will form on the tips. It is possible to grow a 32" trailer by using this method.

My 'Santa Fe Trail' was 16" across and had 15 crowns when it was exhibited at the spring convention. Then in May I potted it up to a larger pot. In July I potted it up into a 17" wide x 4" deep plastic



Mrs. Kisamore with 'Santa Fe Trail'

washbowl. It had 17 crowns but after removing the foliage and pinning the stems, new roots formed and the number of crowns doubled. The plant was 25" across for the autumn convention. In December I

potted it into a more suitable 16" container. It didn't look too good because I removed most of the foliage but in a few months the foliage was thick and beautiful again. Foliage which is not growing must be removed so new roots will form. This pertains to both standard and miniature trailers.

Summation

The most important part of this technique is to grow as many new roots as possible, then new crowns grow quickly and foliage will be thick and will fill the pot no matter how large the pot is. Crowns and foliage must be in a constant state of growth in order to have lots of blossoms. Disbud when removing foliage to force new roots, then energy will go to forming new foliage.

Each variety is different so you need to know the characteristics of each trailer so you can choose only the best suited for this technique. I hope my experience will be helpful to you.

to take a leaf. The badly affected plants can be thrown out. I drenched my entire collection.

The decontamination process involves rigorous sanitation procedures. What ever isn't thrown out must be sanitized. I soaked trays and pots in a 10% bleach solution for 10 minutes. I also washed some with Physan 20. I sprayed Lysol on my light tubes.

After decontamination how do you prevent the fungus from striking again? You can isolate plants that are new to your collection and watch carefully for signs. Sanitation is important. Disinfect tools between cuts with bleach solution, physan, or lysol. You could do a preventative drenching with a fungicide on all new plants. In our club those who used Physan 20 (1/8 teaspoon per gallon) did not get the disease. I think the Physan would be a good preventative to use on your whole collection, with every watering or in wick reservoirs.

What causes the disease? I think the easiest way to get it is to bring an infected plant into your collection. From other reading I have done, I guess the spores for these fungus diseases are everywhere. When the conditions are just right they start to grow.

Some conditions that encourage a fungus are:

- 1) High temperature
- 2) heavy soil
- 3) desert to swamp conditions
- 4) acid soil
- 5) overwatering
- 6) unsterile soil
- 7) high humidity
- 8) constant saturation of soil
- 9) salinity buildup with wick watering, lack of proper leaching

Other references:

November 1985 African Violet Magazine, "Pythium" by Cheryl Hukle, pg. 46

January 1976 African Violet Magazine, "Pythium Root Rot Strikes Southland" by Pauline Bartholomew, pg. 25

January 1976 African Violet Magazine, "Fungus Can Be Deadly If You Let It" by Mrs. D. J. Lidiak, pg. 28.

Fungus Disease

Dawn Penland
1695 Denison Cr.
Longmont, CO 80501

Recently, there have been reports across the country, of a disease that looks like mite damage but is not. Several growers in my own violet club experienced this with their plants. We first noticed the plants had very tight centers. The center leaves were sometimes yellowish, brownish, mottled, brittle, or hairy. The center leaves were very stunted and sometimes died out completely. The next row of leaves, out from the center, were misformed and some curled under on the edges. Blossoms were small, distorted and pale in color.

I took plants from three different growers to be tested at the Colorado State University Plant Disease Clinic. The test results came back showing Pythium on some and Fusarium on others. Both are fungus diseases. The recommended control was a fungicide called Banrot. I was not able to get Banrot, so I used Subdue (1/2 teaspoon per gallon) for the Pythium and Benomyl (1 Tablespoon per gallon) for the Fusarium. I will repeat the treatment after 6 weeks. After the plants have been treated, it should be safe

Send your "Coming Event" notices
to Jane Birge, 1596 Pipkin,
Beaumont, TX 77705

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210

"If you can dream it, you can do it," is on a General Motors display at Epcot Center in Florida. Yes, we are dreaming of an office home all our own in the not too distant future, and we CAN DO IT.

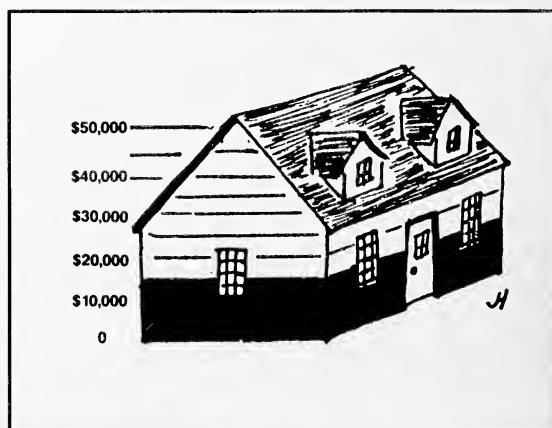
Did you read the article, page 27 in the September-October AVM about how you can get a free copy of Pauline Bartholomew's book, "Growing To Show"? Many are responding to her generous offer. Hurry and get in your donation so you can be one of the lucky 50. The following AVSA affiliates have received their copy: Lincoln AVS, Lincoln, NE, \$50; All Seasons AVS, Ashland, MA, \$20; AVS of Greater Tulsa, OK, \$25; Nightshade AVC, St. Louis, MO, \$20; Saintpaulia Society, St. Louis, MO, \$20; Le Chateau AVC, St. Louis, MO, \$20; Valdosta AVS, Valdosta, GA, \$20; Rocky Mountain AV Council, Denver, CO, \$20.

This week I received a nice gift of a 5 1/2 oz. Schultz Instant Liquid Plant Food from the Schultz Company. This made me think of the many ways in which our commercial members might help the Building Fund and their businesses as well. What is YOUR specialty? How about an offer of some new hybrids, soil, special type of pots, fertilizers, leaf supports, floracarts, or whatever you specialize in, for a substantial donation to the Building Fund? Every day more and more ideas evolve as to how we can indeed make our dream come true.

September, 1987

AVS of South Bay, CA	\$25.00
Shoals AV Enthusiasts, AL	25.00
Elymore (Ellie) & Sid Bogin, honoring Harold Rienhardt, NY	25.00
Central Jersey AVS, NJ	25.00
Lincoln AVS, NE	50.00
Magic Knight AVS, TX	25.00
Capital City AVS, AL	50.00
Helen Kongsted, CT	25.00
All Seasons AVS, MA	20.00
First AVC of Janesville, WI	25.00
Union County Chapter AVSA, NJ	50.00

First AVS of Amarillo, TX	15.00
AVS of Greater Tulsa, OK	25.00
Leonard and Elaine Re, CA	10.00
Saintpaulia Society, MO	20.00
Nightshade AVC, MO	20.00
Erma Wilcken, MI	10.00
Four Seasons AVC, TX	20.00
AV Assn. of Gardeners, FL	100.00
Rocky Mountain AV Council, CO	20.00
Violeteers, CO	25.00
Connie Wise (premiums for first 3 places in Laramie County Fair) WY	6.00
Le Chateau AVC, MO	20.00
Missouri Valley AV Council, MO	20.00
Longview AVC, WA	25.00
First Lakeland AVS, FL	100.00
Valdosta AVS, GA	20.00
AVS of The Eastbay, Inc., CA	50.00
First Longview AVS, TX	25.00
Central Texas Judges Council, TX	25.00
Chimneyville AVC, MS	10.00
Baltimore AVC, MD	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. A. Charles Bollar, CA	500.00



**Give to the Building Fund
and help AVSA.**

Ask Your Hybridizer!

*Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road, #A2
Elyria, OH 44035*



I am encouraged when I receive letters telling me of crosses being made with good parents. This is the shortest path to success. The goal of the hybridizer is not just to discover new unusual varieties, but to improve the existing varieties. Mere "novelty" plants that lack overall quality soon pass from the scene, but vigorous varieties that bloom well and grow symmetrical remain popular for many years. I like the hybridizing philosophy Canadian John Brownlie who says, "I cross the best with the best and hope for the best." Good breeding begins with the selection of good parents. Do not expect to create a best in show variety from some puny violet with two blooms per stem and leggy foliage. As my grandmother used to say, "You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear." It is not necessary to be a genetic genius to hybridize good violets. The exercise of common sense will take one a long way.

I can promise everyone that the AVSA Convention Show in Dallas will be one of the best ever! We regret our loss in missing the Florida experience, but we are looking forward to a great reunion in Texas in April. Hope to see "you all" there.

Q: I have ordered the miniature 'Everdina' three times from three different commercials and everytime it blooms, it blooms solid purple instead of a fantasy. Is it genetically feasible to put leaves down from the purple plants and get fantasy babies or should I try another commercial?

A: Leaves from the solid color plants will not produce fantasy babies. My advice is not to try another commercial, but to complain to the ones you have already tried. It is likely they will send you another plant.

Q: Can violets be hybridized to be immune to thrips? I have observed that thrips seem to like some

varieties more than others and it does not seem to me to be entirely a matter of the color of the bloom.

A: Thrips do seem to have some favorite varieties of violets, but I have not found any variety that repelled or resisted them. Thrips are attracted to yellow and they seem to prefer blossom colors that show off the yellow anthers in good contrast, such as a dark purple open face bloom. Should someone discover a thrips resistant violet all breeders would be ecstatic!

Q: I know that you must use a variegated mother plant if you want the seedlings to have variegated foliage because the chlorophyll, or lack of it, in a leaf is controlled by the cytoplasm of the female sex cell instead of the nucleus. Are there any other traits besides variegated foliage that are transmitted by the cytoplasm instead of the sex cells?

A: Variegated foliage is the only known cytoplasmic inheritance in violets. I have a strong feeling that there are others that are unknown at present because they are not blantly obvious traits (disease resistance?). In the study of genetics the cytoplasm has been largely ignored to date. There are at least some scientists that think in the future the cytoplasm may be found to have greater importance in heredity. They reason that all the raw materials on which the genes act and from which they reproduce themselves must be transported via the cytoplasm. Also any effect that the gene exerts on the cell or organism as a whole must be through the cytoplasm. The cytoplasm is the location of all sorts of enzymatic activities. It is certainly possible that there are other cytoplasmic hereditary traits in violets besides variegated foliage.

Q: Can an African violet be crossed with an episcia to get the trailing habit of growth?

A: Since *Saintpaulia* and *Episcia* are both members of the family *Gesneriaceae* you cannot say that such a cross is impossible. There have been some successful crosses made in some plant families between different genera. To say that something is possible does not mean that it is by any means probable. No one knows how great the odds are against it. It could be 1 in 10 million. I also know that when some intergeneric crosses have been made the seed produced failed to germinate. Since this question comes from Ohio, I cannot resist saying that your chances of crossing a violet and an episcia are about the same as winning the state lottery . . . not very good!

Q: I read in one book on plant breeding that you should always sterilize your equipment between different crosses by dipping your needle, brush, scissors, etc., in 70% ethyl or denatured alcohol and then wipe them dry with a clean tissue. What do you think about such practice? Is this necessary?

A: I read the same book. I used to do it. All I can tell you is that my number of takes suddenly became so low that I stopped. I thought that the residual effects of the alcohol might be killing many of the sex cells in the pollen. I stopped using the alcohol and my percentage of takes returned to normal. That was my experience, and I cannot say for certain that the alcohol was the culprit, but I don't use it anymore.

Q: I understand genes and chromosomes, but what is DNA?

A: DNA is the chemical basis of the gene. DNA stands for deoxyribonucleic acid. You could think of DNA as the substance from which genes are made. A gene is chemically a molecule of nucleic acid.

Q: It is taking at least a month for my seed to germinate, and then the germination is very sparse. Can you tell me what could be wrong?

A: Usually when seed takes that long to germinate and the germination is sparse, it is because the *soil* temperatures are too low. When the soil temperature is 80 degrees the seeds will begin to germinate in 8 to 10 days and be completed in 14 days. You need some method of bottom heat to get that kind of soil temperature. If you grow under fluorescent lights, then the heat from the tubes is usually sufficient. In the greenhouses I use a heating strip called Agritape which thermostatically maintains a set temperature. I would also advise that you make sure that your seed pods have dried completely before attempting to sow the seeds. Wait 3 or 4 weeks after harvesting the pods

before you sow the seed. Take care that your soil does not dry out before the seeds germinate. If a seed takes up moisture and then dries before it germinates, it dies.

Coming Events

JANUARY 16 LOUISIANA — Judging school, Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge. 9 a.m., L. T. Ozio, Jr., teacher. \$10 fee for testing, \$8 for auditing. Anite D'antonio, 504-355-4800 and Mary McFarland, 504-357-8517, cochairmen.

FEBRUARY 5 - 7 FLORIDA — Upper Pinellas AVS' show, "Rainbow of Violets," Sunshine Mall, 1220 S. Missouri Ave., Clearwater. Feb. 5, 1 - 9 p.m.; Feb. 6, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Feb. 7, noon - 4 p.m. Public is invited. Show chairman, Leonard Waller and Charles A. Charlton, president.

FEBRUARY 6 & 7 FLORIDA — Mid-Polk AVS' show/sale, "Violets in Swing Time," Winter Haven Mall, Winter Haven. Regular mall hours. Free admission. Co-chairmen, Rita Hilton and Judy Partain.

FEBRUARY 12 - 14 FLORIDA — First Lakeland AVS' show/sale, "Tropical Lagoons," Lakeland Mall. Betty McVicker, show chairman, 813-665-9083.

FEBRUARY 13 FLORIDA — Treasure Coast AVS' show/sale, Garden Club Center, Parkway & 10th St., Ft. Pierce. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Public is invited, no admission fee.

FEBRUARY 13 ARIZONA — Desert Sun AVS' sale, Los Arcos Mall, 1315 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free seminars included.

FEBRUARY 13 & 14 MISSOURI — AVC of Greater Kansas City's show, "My Heart Belongs To Violets," Loose Park Garden Center, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Show chairman, Wayne Shupp.

FEBRUARY 20 & 21 TEXAS — Nasa Area AVS' 11th show/sale, Valentine weekend, "Violets 'n Lace," Webster Civic Center, 311 Pennsylvania, Webster. Feb. 20, 2 - 5 p.m.; Feb. 21, noon - 5 p.m. Public is invited & admission is free. Clifford Bang, show chairman.

FEBRUARY 20 & 21 OKLAHOMA — AVS of Greater Tulsa's 12th annual show/sale, "Once Upon a Time with Violets," Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S. Peoria, Tulsa. Noon - 5 p.m., both days. Admission free. Linda McGaha, show chairman.

FEBRUARY 20 & 21 LOUISIANA — Rayne AVS' show/sale, "Violet Party," K.C. Hall, 300 S. Adams (Hwy. 90), Rayne. Feb. 20, 2 - 4 p.m.; Feb. 21, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. For additional information, contact: Leora Peres, P. O. Box 412, Rayne 70578, 318-334-4825. Free admission, open to the public.

FEBRUARY 26 - 28 FLORIDA — Tampa AVS' 14th show/sale, Westshore Mall, Westshore & Kennedy boulevards, Tampa. Lucille Chester, show chairman.

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 6 CANADA — Edmonton AVS' show/sale/display, "Back To Africa," Muttart Conservatory, Edmonton, Alberta. For information: (403) 435-5198 or (403) 475-7055.

MARCH 4 & 5 TEXAS — Spring Branch AVC of Houston's 10th show/sale, Fair Haven United Methodist Church, 1330 Gessner. Mar. 4, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 5, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Free admission. Mae Dennison, show chairman. For information: Louise Andrews, 713-774-1572.

MARCH 5 & 6 CALIFORNIA — San Diego Daytime AVS' show/sale, "Super Bowl of Violets," Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Rm. 101. Mar. 5, 1 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Beverly Decker, show chairman, 619-469-9975.

MARCH 5 & 6 ARIZONA — AVS of Tucson's 31st show/sale, "Jewels of the Desert," Park Mall Shopping Center, 5870 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson. Mar. 5, noon - 6 p.m.; Mar. 6, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. Sue Sacco, show chairman.

MARCH 5 & 6 ALABAMA — Montgomery AVS with the cooperation of Capitol City AVS, will hold their 16th show/sale, "We Celebrate! 25 Years of African Violets," Southern Homes and Gardens, U.S. Hwy. 231 N, Montgomery. Mar. 5, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 6 1 - 4:30 p.m. No charge. Peg Phythyon, show chairman, 567-5433.

MARCH 5 & 6 LOUISIANA — Baton Rouge AVS' show/sale, "Violets Light Up My Life," Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge. Mar. 5, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 6, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. Nancy David, show chairman.

MARCH 12 & 13 FLORIDA — Miracle Strip AVS' show/sale, "Flying Down To Rio," Panama City Mall, Hwy. 231 SR 77 and 23 St., Panama City. Mar. 12, 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 13, 12:30 - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited. Sharron Wright, show chairman.

MARCH 12 & 13 CALIFORNIA — San Joaquin AVS' show/sale, "A Rhapsody in Violets," the Mall at Weberstown (next to J.C. Penney) 4950 Pacific Ave. at March Lane, Stockton. Mar. 12, noon - 9 p.m.; Mar. 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. For more information call Susan Bastianelli, 209-931-5070 or Vera Parker, 209-478-1631.

MARCH 12 & 13 TEXAS — AVS of Beaumont's show, "Weatherwise With African Violets," Beaumont Garden Center, Tyrrell Park. Mar. 12, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 13, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited. For more information call 409-892-2855.

MARCH 16 - 20 GEORGIA — Dixie AVS' 32nd annual convention, "Violets Cover Dixie Like the Dew," Radisson Inn and Conference Center, I-75 and Howell Mill Road, Atlanta. Show is free to the public, Mar. 18, 4 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 19, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hugh Mackey, convention chairman and Laura Walker, show chairman.

MARCH 18 & 19 CALIFORNIA — Pomona Valley AVS' show/sale, "Violets Go Prime Time," Church of the Brethren, Bonita at F St., LaVerne. Mar. 18, 1 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 19, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission, public welcome. For more information contact Marna Music, show chairman, 714-593-7618.

MARCH 18 & 19 TEXAS — Sweet Vi-O-Lets AVC's show/sale, Greenspoint Mall, I-45 North, Houston. Mar. 18, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 19, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited.

MARCH 18 - 20 MINNESOTA — Minnesota AVS' 37th show, "Imagination with Violets," Har Mar Mall, Co. B and Snelling Ave., St. Paul, during mall hours. Dolores Harrington, show chairman.

MARCH 18 - 20 ILLINOIS — Rockford AV Fanciers,

Inc.'s 5th show/sale, "African Violets - Out of This World," North Towne Mall, 3600 N. Main at Riverside, Rockford. Sale, Mar. 19 & 20. Show chairman, Lucille Losiewski.

MARCH 19 & 20 CALIFORNIA — San Mateo County AVS' show/sale, Howard Johnson Hotel, Redwood Room, 485 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City. Mar. 19, 2 - 7 p.m.; Mar. 20, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission.

MARCH 19 & 20 TEXAS — First Austin AVS' display/sale, Zilker Park Botanical Garden Center, Zilker Park. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. For additional information, call show chairman, Mrs. Ann Fontenot, 512-836-3495.

MARCH 19 & 20 KANSAS — Wichita AV Study Club's show/sale, "Spring Time Magic," Botanica, 701 Amidon, Wichita. Mar. 19, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 20, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Deanna Bumgardner, 371 S. Shefford, Wichita, KS 67209, show chairman.

MARCH 19 & 20 LOUISIANA — Alexandria AVS' show/sale, "Violets At The Crossroads," Bolton Avenue Community Center, 315 Bolton Ave., Alexandria. Mar. 19, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 20, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free of charge. For further information contact: Beverly Bullock, show chairman, (318) 442-2852 or Flora Nugent, president, (318) 640-4890.

MARCH 25 & 26 VIRGINIA — AVS of Richmond's show/sale, "40 Years Growing - Showing," Azalea Mall, Brook Rd. Mar. 25, 2 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 26, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sharon Long, chairman. For more information, 740-5322.

MARCH 25 & 26 VIRGINIA — Old Dominion AVS' show/sale, "Stately Violets," Green Spring Horticultural Center, Annandale. Mar. 25, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Mar. 26, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission.

MARCH 25 - 27 TENNESSEE — Bluff City AVC's show/sale, "It's Reigning Violets," Park Place Mall, Park and Ridgeway, Memphis. Mar. 25 & 26, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 1 - 5 p.m.

MARCH 26 MASSACHUSETTS — Moby Dick AVC's show/sale, "Adrift With Violets," Christ Church, 57 Main St., Swansea. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public welcome, admission free. John Cook, show chairman, 401-849-3151.

MARCH 26 & 27 CONNECTICUT — Windsor AVS' show/sale, "Dr. Seuss and Violets, Too!" Windsor Public Library, 323 Broad St., Windsor. Mar. 26, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 27, 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Public welcome, free admission.

MARCH 26 & 27 FLORIDA — Suncoast AVS' show/sale, "Violets at the Garden Wall," National Guard Armory, 3601 38th Ave. South, St. Petersburg. Mar. 26, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Sandra Williams, president and show chairman.

MARCH 26 & 27 LOUISIANA — Violets After Five AVS' show/sale, "Violets in Storybook Land," Baton Rouge Garden Center, Independence Park, Baton Rouge. Mar. 26, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. For more information contact Jo Anne Hoover, (504) 687-8030.

MARCH 26 & 27 TEXAS — Centex Rainbow AVC's show/sale, "Violet Trail to Dallas," Conder Park Teen Center Bldg., Killeen. Mar. 26, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited. Show chairman, Barbara Butler.

APRIL 8 & 9 NEBRASKA — Lincoln AVS' show/sale, East Park Plaza, Lincoln. Both days, regular store hours. Both old & new varieties for sale.

APRIL 9 & 10 ILLINOIS — Barrington Bloomers AVS' show/sale, "Hollywood and Violets," Chicago Botanic Gardens, Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Apr. 9, 12:30 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Nikki Collard, show chairman.

APRIL 9 & 10 LOUISIANA — Sundowners AVS' show/sale, "Violets — Seven Come Eleven — Years," Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd., Independence Park, Baton Rouge. Apr. 9, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Apr. 10, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. For additional information contact: Phyllis S. Harris, 5569 South Afton Pkwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (504) 926-0255.

APRIL 21 - 23 TEXAS — Alpha AVS of Dallas' clinic/sale, Big Town Mall, Interstate 20, Big Town Blvd., Mesquite. Apr. 21 & 22, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Apr. 23, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free parking, public invited. For more information call Grace Davis, 214-278-0389.

APRIL 22 - 24 GEORGIA — Classic City AVS' show, "Classic Violets Under a Classic Arch," Georgia Square Mall,

Hwys. 78 & 29, Athens. Open to the public, Apr. 23, 1 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 24, 1 - 5 p.m. For further information contact: Hinton D. Christian, 110 Milledge Terrace Condo #1, Athens, GA 30606, 404-543-6622.

APRIL 23 & 24 LOUISIANA — Jefferson AV Assn.'s show/sale, "Violet Majesty," Travelodge, 2240 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Kenner. Apr. 23, 1 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 24, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public is invited free of charge.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Lower Bucks County's 14th show/sale, "Violets 'R' Us," Oxford Valley Mall, Wanamaker's Court, Rt. 1, Langhorne. Apr. 30, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 1, noon - 6 p.m. Free admission. Joyce McMullen, show chairman.

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



CHARLOTTE AV & GESNERIAD SOCIETY, NC — "Spring Shower of Violets." Vickie Poindexter and Mary Harwood, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Wrangler's El Diablo, Apache Land, Sunbonnet Sue, best in show, Wrangler's El Diablo, best design, best trailer, Falling Snow, best miniature, Wee Hummer, best semi, Hart's Snow White, sweepstakes (40 blue ribbons), Eva Harp; 2nd best AVSA collection, The King, Ballet Meta, Hot Places, Wilma Lusk; 2nd best in show, Molokai, Elizabeth Ashley; best gesneriad, Codonanthe Carnosa, John Shaw.

THE MONTGOMERY AVS, AL — Peg Phythyon, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Pink Panther, 2nd best in show, Bright Eyes, Donna Ferguson. There were 111 entries in this show and best in show was a full 2 feet in diameter and full of blooms evenly spaced.

POTOMAC COUNCIL AV JUDGES, VA — "Victorian Violets." John E. Wilson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Grandma's Pink, The King, Shooting Star, Janet Haag; best in show, Magnolia, 2nd best in show, Sunnyvale Trail, best design, "Antique Lace," best trailer, Sunnyvale Trail, sweepstakes, Rochelle Armstrong; best miniature, Petite Rose, best semi, Autumn Lou, Marie Burns; best gesneriad, English Waltz, Ruth Junkin.

AVS OF MINNESOTA — "The Annual Gathering of Violets." Palma Trapp & Myrtle Rist, cochairmen. Winners: best in show, Raspberry Royale, Nellie Hosek; 2nd best in show, Chiffon Print, sweepstakes, Palma Trapp; best in design, Lorraine Nelson; 2nd best in design, Gen Zondlo; 3rd best in design, Irene Fiedler.

OHIO STATE AVS — "A World's Fair of Violets." Linda Owens, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Big Bird, Mark, Ballet Anna, Cathy Black; 2nd best AVSA collection, Mauna Loa, Country Lilacs, Melissa Anne, Pearl Snyder; best in show, Anna Kreeck, Mary Martin; 2nd best in show, Darling Blue Trail, best miniature, Hyla's Tiko, Pat Larson; best design, "Tall Structures," Betty Bartley; best semi, Little Pro, sweepstakes,

Diana Eakin; best gesneriad, E. Frosty, Viola Tucker.

SUBURBAN AV ENTHUSIASTS, IL — "Up, Up, and Away." Dolly O'Dell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Splendiferous, Happy Cricket, Gail, best in show, Happy Cricket, 2nd best in show, Petite Rose, best design, "Winged Flight," best miniature, Petite Rose, sweepstakes, Connie Romanow; 2nd best AVSA collection, Camelot Pink, Fisher's Leone, Snow Rose, Evalyn Barborik; best gesneriad, X Cod. Spring Time, Karen Okerstrom.

AV COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA — "Back to School with Violets." Carroll Gealy, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Mary Craig, Fredette's Moonflower, Wrangler's Spanish Cavalier, best in show, Mary Craig, best trailer, Brazos Belle, best miniature, Fairy Tales, best semi, Hot Jazz, sweepstakes, Carroll Gealy; 2nd best AVSA collection, Beginner's Luck, Dear Ellie, Pay Dirt, Hans Inpijn; best design, "Kindergarten Days," Virginia Lemm; best gesneriad, E. Joy Silver, George Crouchet.

WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF AV CLUBS — "Wisconsin's Wonderland of Violets." Pat Robinson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection (amateur), Fisherman's Paradise, Coy, Square Dancer, 2nd best in show, Square Dancer, best design, "Wisconsin Dells," best trailer, Chatter Trail, best miniature, Wee Dear, best gesneriad, E. Helen-O, sweepstakes (56 blue ribbons), Florise Hogan; best AVSA collection (commercial), Innocent Flirtations, Fancy That, Razzberry Frost, Pat Robinson; best in show, Topmost, best semi, Topmost, Sue Fricker.

MEMPHIS AVS, TN — "Violets in Their Homeland." Winners: Best in show, Wrangler's Snowfields, sweepstakes (artistic), Iona Pair; 2nd best in show, Wonderland, best gesneriad, Cleopatra, Katherine Hickman; best semi, Snuggles, Katherine Steele; best miniature, Red Slippers, best trailer, Pip Squeek, sweepstakes (show), Mae Phillips; best artistic arrangement, best planted design, Tim Hunter.

AVS OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS, INC. — "Tricks or Treats With Violets." Mildred Aske, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Illini Peace, Desert Dawn, Tina, best in show, Red Ferrari, best design, sweepstakes, Anna Jean Landgren; 2nd AVSA collection, Canadian Sunset, Ruffled Crystallaire, Happy Face, Mildred Aske; 2nd best in show, Snowy Trail, best trailer, Snowy Trail, Anita Fiori; best semi, Snuggles Delight, Beverly Larsen; best gesneriad, Chirita Species #1, Elaine Gordon.

LAKE SHORE AVS, IL — "Rhapsody in Bloom." Lois Hughes, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Fisher's Leone, Fisherman's Paradise, Heaven Sent, best in show, Moby Grape, Susan Dublinski; 2nd best AVSA collection, Watermelon Rose, Sylvia, The King, 2nd best in show, Precious Pink, best design, "Summertime," Lois Hughes; best trailer, Cirelda, Barbara Dorbett; best gesneriad, Gesneria Cunefolia, Sandy Stubbings.

MISSOURI VALLEY AV COUNCIL — "Violets on Jayhawk Hill." Raymond Russell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Coral Glow, Devil May Care, Fisherman's Paradise, best in show, Phantom Flash, 2nd best in show, Devil May Care, best trailer, Ramblin Dots, best miniature, Lucky Lass, best semi, Bogeyman, sweepstakes, Kent Stork; 2nd best AVSA collection, Magic Blue, Snuggles, Snuggles Delight, Joyce Stork; best design, "Potter's Lake," best gesneriad, Spec. epic. reptans, Jeanne Cotton.

AVS OF DENVER, CO — "Jewels - Out of Africa." Nelly Levine, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Hush Poppy, 2nd best in show, Red Ferrari, best miniature, Little Sunset, best trailer, Fancy Trail, sweepstakes (18 blue ribbons), Nelly Levine; best design, "The Winds of Africa," Sandy Brundrett.

ROYAL SAINTPAULIA AV CLUB, CANADA — "Violets and Old Lace." Jeanie Bell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Happy Cricket, Anna Kreeck, Jeanie Bell, best in show, Shirley, 2nd best in show, Happy Cricket, best design, "A Natural Garden," best miniature, Betty Davis, best semi, Precious Pink, sweepstakes, Jeanie Bell; best trailer, Fancy Trail, Rose Gulliver; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus, Isabell Fotleger.

RHODE ISLAND AVS — "Fall in Love with Violets." Cynthia A. Miga, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snuggles, Hart's Snow White, Dolled Up, best in show, Snuggles, best trailer, Spring Fever Trail, best miniature, Fairy Tales, best semi, Little Crissy, best gesneriad, E. Kristina, sweepstakes, Judith Feeney; 2nd best in show, Blueberry Pie, Mrs. David Sweet; best design, "Love in Bloom," Jeanette Richard.

BLUFF CITY AVC, TN — "The Colorful Comical World of African Violets." Mary Loewer & George McDonald, co-chairmen. Winners: Best in show, Pride of Enterprise, Helen Stauffer; sweepstakes (horticulture & show), best miniature, Lil' Thornbird, best trailer, Adeara, George McDonald; best semi, Snuggles, Barbara McDonald; best gesneriad, Episcia Cleopatra, Mae Phillips; best flower arrangement, "The Great Pumpkin," best plant arrangement, "Saluting the Army," best container garden, sweepstakes (design) Iona Pair.

TRANSVAAL AVS, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA — "Violets in Verse." Mrs. Joan Halford, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Something Special, Barbara Yorke Hart; 2nd best AVSA collection, Something Special, Don's Karissma, Dumplin, best miniature, Mini Minx, best gesneriad, Codonanthe Carnosa, best trailer, Snowy Trails, best design, "I Know a Bank Whereon The Wild Thyme Blows."

African Violets On Stamps

Janet Riemer

392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd.

Pennington, NJ 08534

On July 31, 1986 the African nation of Burundi issued two postage stamps featuring African violets in their designs. They are part of a set of 12 stamps, all of which depict flowers of one kind or another. The two African violet stamps are designated Burundi 634 and Burundi C290 in the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog*, the definitive American listing of postage stamps of the world. Burundi 634 has a face value of 3 francs and Burundi C290 is an airmail stamp with a face value of 75 francs.

Burundi is a small nation located at the northern end of Lake Tanganyika in East-Central Africa and they doubtlessly included *Saintpaulia* in this set of flower stamps because African violets are native to their country. Considering the immense popularity of African violets in the United States, perhaps this country too, should issue a stamp featuring the genus *Saintpaulia*. This would require a concerted effort by the membership of AVSA, with hundreds of individual members writing to The Postmaster General, requesting that a stamp be issued depicting an African violet. What do you think? Is it worth a try?

Emilie Savage Needs 'Moonfire'

Show and Judges Committee Chairman, Emilie Savage would like to find a variegated leaf of the Canadian hybrid, 'Moonfire,' tissue culture experimentation at Ohio State University.

Anyone with such a plant should contact Emilie Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601. She would also like to have growing pattern information.

Member Looking for Plant Holder

E. Zeutzius, 701 Hawthorne Lane, Geneva, IL 60134 is trying to locate a Window or Wall Plant Holder that was advertised many years ago in the AVM by Burton Burk, Inc., Wantagh, NY. If anyone knows of the holder or the company, please contact Mrs. Zeutzius.

AVSA EMBLEMS

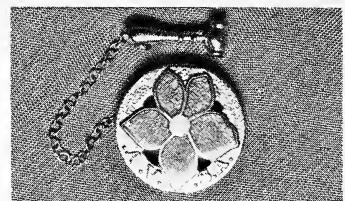
(Give a Friend a Gift)



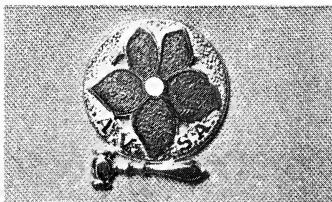
A - 201
Member Pin
GP or Silver - \$12.75



B - 203
Member Charm
GP or Silver - \$12.75



C - 202
President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50



D - 221
Past President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50
(with Tie Tack) - \$18.50



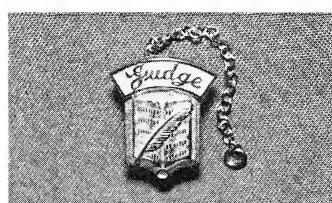
E - 204
Past President's Charm
GP or Silver \$18.50



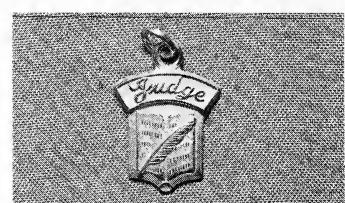
F - 211
Gavel & Chain
GP or Silver - \$6.00



G - 234
Judge's Pin
GP or Silver - \$8.00
(with Tie Tack) - \$8.00



H - 210
Judge's Guard Pin
GP or Silver \$9.50
(chain attaches to other pins)



I - 208
Judge's Charm
GP or Silver - \$8.00

New Arrivals: Life Member Pins

Goldfilled - \$24 • Silver - \$20.00

The Language of the Gavel

By Ann Richardson

Did you who own AVSA pins with a gavel know that there is a language of the gavel? The angle of the gavel tells a story, as follows:

President-elect:



(as in use — rapping for order)

Past-President:



worn down, as at rest.

Some of the clubs in the south present their President-elect with the pin and gavel immediately after election so that she may wear her pin showing that she is President-elect and also during her presidency.

**DAPHNE
SNELL
of
New Zealand**



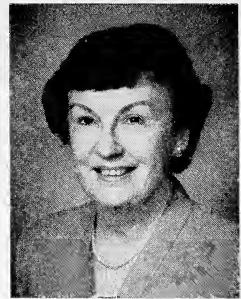
Kiwi Glory

(AVSA Library Collection)



SHOWS AND JUDGES

*Emilie Savage
39 Mead Drive
Chillicothe, OH 45601*



This is the beginning of a new year and also a time when our AVSA affiliates are planning their spring African violet shows. We are preparing for our AVSA convention and show in Dallas, Texas, April 10 - 17. I hope to see many of you there. Notices for judges and clerks appear in this issue of the AVM. Please send in your application as early as possible since we will need lots of judges and clerks this year.

We have discovered that an omission was made from the new Judges' Handbook. It was in the previous edition and should be added to the current Handbook.

Addition to Handbook

Page 52. CONSIDERATIONS FOR JUDGING STANDARD AFRICAN VIOLETS

Condition: (add the following after "dust, soil, or traces of spray.")

Seed pods (enlarged pistils should not be confused with seed pods) - 1 point each.

We still have a few more questions that were submitted for the panel at the Judges' Breakfast last year at the AVSA convention in Orlando, FL. These will be answered as follows:

Question 1. Why is it "not done" to score a plant — fully deserving it — 100 points. Why would our scale of points add up to 100 if that score is not given?

Answer: All plant exhibits are judged by the appropriate AVSA scale of points which total 100 points. Regrettably, some judges do not feel there is a "perfect plant." This is untrue. I have seen a plant in a collection class receive a score of 100. If a panel of judges cannot find any faults on which to deduct points, or a fraction thereof, a plant exhibit must be given the full 100 points. Otherwise, there would be no reason for having a scale of points that totaled 100. There is an interesting analogy about judging students evaluating a teacher's performance in much

the same manner. Our evaluation sheets for a judging school include, among other items, an evaluation on a scale of 1 - 10. We have received evaluations totaling 9.999 "because nobody's perfect." If a teacher has covered all the important points in the Judges Handbook well, has responded to all questions in a clear and concise manner, and has done an excellent job in every way, then the rating should be a 10.

Question 2. If the Best Design is a Flower Arrangement, then another exhibit will be awarded Best Flower Arrangement. Isn't this in conflict with AVSA procedures?

Answer: In the Shows and Judges' column, September-October, 1987 AVM, this question was dealt with at length with regard to the Horticulture Division of a show. The same principle applies to the Design Division. Our AVSA judging system is based on merit judging. This means that any exhibit, whether design or horticulture, is entitled to receive any and all awards it merits. Therefore, an exhibit which is deemed by the judges to be the best Interpretive Flower Arrangement could receive the Best Design Award as well, if the judges consider it to score higher than the best Interpretive Plant Arrangement or the best Container Garden.

Question 3. (a) Is it the intent that seedling entries in AVSA shows be only those which are grown and hybridized by the exhibitor? If so, doesn't this discourage purchase and growth from seed?

(b) When a seedling is entered by an amateur or even a commercial, should they be denied a blue ribbon just because they are not different from those already on the market? If so, why? The comment is frequently seen.

(c) What advice would you give the exhibitor in showing seedlings? Comments on cards are frequently criticizing.

Answer: First, let me recommend that all judges

and exhibitors read pages 57 and 58 in the Judges Handbook regarding New Cultivars (seedlings and mutations). I would suggest that all affiliate clubs who do not have the Judges Handbook in the club library, purchase one for the benefit of their members. All members who are interested in exhibiting should have one, also.

Seedling entries in the Amateur Horticulture Division of an affiliate show do not have to be the origination of the exhibitor, provided rights to them have been released by the hybridizer to the exhibitor in writing. However, a new rule was presented to the AVSA Board of Directors by the commercial growers that the rights *and ownership* must be released in writing. This rule which was passed by the Board, applies to the Commercial Division of the show only.

Plants grown from purchased seed are the property of the grower and it is not necessary to get permission from the seeds' producer to exhibit the plants.

A seedling that is entered in a show is judged by the scale of points for New Cultivars (page 57). Our Judges Handbook allocates 25 out of a possible 100 points for "Improvement or difference from any named variety." There is a proliferation of violets being introduced that do not have these characteristics. I feel that an exhibit which does not meet the criteria which will be listed in the following paragraph should not receive a blue ribbon since up to 25 points may be deducted under this category.

Some of the considerations which the judges will be looking for to see if there is any improvement or difference from any named variety are listed as follows:

A new cultivar (either seedling or mutation) should be distinctive. It should be either different from or a definitive improvement over an existing variety. Judges should look for a different shading or a color variation in blossom; an unusual pattern in blossom such as flecks of another color, stripes, or an entirely new shape; new pattern in foliage, either different colors in variegation or types of leaves; or a distinctive combination of blossoms & foliage (such as huge white blossoms on very dark foliage). Also, an increase in size of blossom, extra strong petioles, leaves that lie flat in a lovely symmetrical pattern, and/or unusually high blossom count per stem could be considered an improvement in existing varieties. This exhibit should be a plant that may

be similar but a distinctive improvement.

My advice to an exhibitor of a new cultivar would be to follow these guidelines closely. There are many pretty seedlings emanating from a single seed pod, but only a few are usually worth propagating for further study. Many of them will be almost identical to African violets already introduced by other hybridizers. Be sure that the one you enter in a show is extra special and follows the criteria in our Judges Handbook. Otherwise, you may receive a red ribbon.

Judging Schools

Students taking a judge's examination for the first time and refresher judges should sign examination paper exactly as shown on AVSA membership card. If you desire to have a different name designation on your judge's card please change the name on your AVSA membership card first. Having two different names, even such as Jane Doe and Mrs. James Doe leads to confusion between our records and those in our AVSA Beaumont Office.

Teachers' Applications

Our Judges Handbook states on page 92, rule 3 under Application Procedure that a set of 25 questions with answers based on information in the latest edition of the Handbook be submitted as a part of the application to qualify as a teacher. Some requests have been made for further explanation concerning the format of the questions. These questions should be the type that would be used in an examination which would be prepared for administering in a judging school. Each question may be the type that requires an essay answer, several blanks to fill in, or a true-false statement. A question may consist of two parts or even five parts, if desired. This gives the Shows and Judges chairman an idea of the kind of test paper you would write for a judging school.

Notice:

International Members

We are now prepared to offer an examination for judges outside of North America, either for renewal of those who have previously taken one at our AVSA convention judging schools, or who wish to take one for the first time. Any AVSA member is eligible. Please apply to Mrs. Betty Tapping, 1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada M9C 1G5 for further details.

**LYNDON
LYON
GREENHOUSES**

•
**Paul & Sidney
SORANO**

Spring Fancy



Beau Jester



Convention Show Schedule

Theme: Grand Reunion in Texas with Violets

Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion

Dallas, Texas

April 10-17, 1988

Horticulture Division - Amateur

Section I - AVSA Collections

Class

1. AVSA Collection of three registered varieties all of the same type: standard, miniature, semiminiature, or trailers, either standard, miniature, or semiminiature.

Section II - Standard Plants, Single and Semi-double Blossoms

2. Blues and purples
3. Pink, dark pink, rose, and coral
4. Red, wine, fuchsia, and plum
5. Lavender, mauve, and orchid
6. White, cream, and blush
7. Two-tone and multicolor
8. Fantasy and all edged
9. Chimera

Section III - Standard Plants, Double Blossoms

10. Dark blue and purple
11. Light to medium blue
12. Light to medium pink
13. Dark pink, rose, and coral
14. Red, wine, fuchsia, and plum
15. Lavender, mauve, and orchid
16. White, cream, and blush
17. Two-tone and multicolor (all shades blue and purple)
18. Two-tone and multicolor (all shades pink and red)
19. Fantasy, chimera, and all edged

Section IV - Standard Plants, Single, Semi-double, or Double Blossoms, Variegated Foliage

20. Blue, purple, lavender, and orchid
21. Pink, red, fuchsia, coral, and wine
22. White, cream, and blush
23. Two-tone, multicolor, and edged

Section V - Miniature Plants, Single, Semidouble, or Double Blossoms

24. Purple and all shades of blue
25. Pink, coral, red, and fuchsia
26. Orchid and lavender
27. White and blush
28. Two-tone, multicolor, fantasy, chimera, and all edged

29. Purple and all shades of blue, variegated foliage
30. Pink, coral, red, and fuchsia, variegated foliage
31. Orchid, lavender, white, and blush, variegated foliage
32. Two-tone, multicolor, fantasy, chimera, and all edged, variegated foliage

Section VI - Semiminiature Plants, Single, Semi-double, or Double Blossoms

33. Purple and all shades of blue
34. Pink, coral, red, and fuchsia
35. Orchid and lavender
36. White and blush
37. Two-tone, multicolor, fantasy, chimera, and all edged
38. Purple and all shades of blue, variegated foliage
39. Pink, coral, red, and fuchsia, variegated foliage
40. Orchid, lavender, white, and blush, variegated foliage
41. Two-tone, multicolor, fantasy, chimera, and all edged, variegated foliage

Section VII - Trailers and Species, Single, Semi-double, or Double Blossoms, Any Type Foliage

42. Standard trailers
43. Microminiature trailers
44. Miniature and semiminiature trailers
45. *Saintpaulia* species

Section VIII - New Cultivars

46. Seedlings
47. Sports or mutants

Section IX - African Violet Plant In Unusual Container

48. One African violet plant, either standard, miniature, or semiminiature in container
49. One African violet trailer in container

Section X - Gesneriads Other Than African Violets

50. Miniatures (may be displayed in regular pots or growing in clear container, cover permitted)
51. Tuberous-rooted
52. Scaly-rhizomed
53. Fibrous-rooted
54. Gesneriads grown for ornamental foliage

Design Division

Section XI - Container Gardens - Miniature gardens with one or more blooming African violet plants and other growing plants. All plants must be planted in the container; no cut plant material permitted; accessories optional.

55. "Japanese Garden" - This remarkable garden is a popular feature of the Ft. Worth Botanic Garden. Visitors step into a world of winding pathways that lead past quiet ponds where Japanese koi swim. A delicate teahouse perches on one of the ponds. A covered terrarium, not to exceed 30" in any direction. Limited to 8 entries.

56. "Hill Country" - The live oak trees, rivers, and wildflowers make this a special place in Texas. Rural roads take you past waterfalls, ancient rock formations, and herds of deer. Journey through this land and discover why it is so beloved. A shallow dish garden with overall dimensions not to exceed 20". Limited to 8 entries.

57. "Palmetto State Park" - In the heart of central Texas is an isolated swamp out of context with the topography of the state. Here grow wild orchids, palmetto palms, and other strange plant life. Step carefully - the quicksand is treacherous but the water of the hot sulfur springs has a healing power seldom found anywhere else. A garden planting in a container formed from natural material such as driftwood, lava rock, or etc., not to exceed 18" in any direction. Limited to 8 entries.

Section XII - Interpretive Plant Arrangements - One or more blooming African violet plants used in a design. Fresh-cut, dried, treated, or colored plant material is permitted. To be staged in niches white in color, and 28" high by 24" wide by 15" deep.

58. "TV's Dallas" - J. R. is doing his usual "get Bobby" shenanigans. Miss Ellie is tranquil and steadfast, Cliff is plotting to get J. R. - and so life goes on at Southfork. Create a design depicting the characters, the intrigue of the plot, or the homeplace, Southfork. Limited to 6 entries.

59. "Mesquite Rodeo" - Every weekend from April until Labor Day, cowboys come from all over to compete in this championship rodeo. Create an interpretive planting to remind one of this wild performance - be it bull riding, calf roping, or the antics of the clowns. Limited to 6 entries.

60. "Reunion Tower" - The 50-story Tower, with its unique geodesic dome, is the archi-

tical landmark of Dallas. The three-level dome, studded with 240 light bulbs, creates a spectacular night-time display. Limited to 6 entries.

61. "Six Flags Over Texas" - This amusement park draws visitors of all ages. Experience the new water ride, Splashwater Falls. Passenger boats climb five stories high, then plunge over a waterfall at a 35-degree angle into a quarter-of-a million-gallon lake. Limited to 6 entries.

Section XIII - Interpretive Flower Arrangements - Fresh-cut African violet blossoms and other plant material used in a design. Fresh-cut, dried, treated, or colored plant material is permitted. Classes 62-66 to be staged in niches white in color, and 22" high by 18" wide by 12" deep. Classes 67 and 68 to be staged in niches white in color, and 10" high by 8" wide by 6" deep, placed on wooden risers 20" high and 12" deep (on table top). Class 69 to be staged using black picture frames, 8" x 10" x 2" wide. Class 70 will be staged on wooden risers 20" high and 15" deep, placed on table top, in front of a pale blue background 16" high.

62. "Fiesta Time" - San Antonio puts on its most extravagant show during the 96-year old ritual known as Fiesta. The Mexican influence and traditions as the Battle of the Flowers parade have helped mold the festive character of this city. A design depicting your view from the famous River Walk. Limited to 6 entries.

63. "Another Big Time in Texas" - Just choose your pace, then pick the place - Texas has it all. Seaside celebrations to big city lights, Texas cities do it right. Create an interpretive flower arrangement using your idea of Texas, who's hosting its third AVSA convention. Limited to 6 entries.

64. "Amtrak" - Just a short walk away is the Amtrak station. Think of all the places you could go on Amtrak. The tracks wind all over the U.S., over mountains and through valleys. Design a colorful arrangement that comes to your imagination while daydreaming about an Amtrak journey. Limited to 6 entries.

65. "Spindletop" - In 1901, near Beaumont, the first gusher in the famous Spindletop oil field blew in. Black gold created excitement everywhere from booming wells, to dancing girls, and wild gunfights. An interpretive arrangement using a black backdrop or draping. Limited to 6 entries.

66. "Texas Wildlife Refuge" - This refuge on Matagorda Bay is the migratory home of the endangered Whooping Crane. The cranes are increasing in population because of this wonderful winter home. Create a suspended or hanging interpretive arrangement to represent in some way, these graceful birds. Limited to 4 entries.

67. "Old City Park" - This is where the houses and nostalgia of yesteryear reside. An old log cabin and a general store are found here in a town like setting. The store stocks jelly beans to vintage items - lye soap, ornate thimbles to lace fans. A small interpretive arrangement not to exceed 8" in its greatest overall dimension using a container symbolic of the era. Limited to 8 entries.

68. "Country Roads" - There are many country roads in Texas - leading back home to a gathering of old school friends or to a violet convention reunion. In this small interpretive arrangement,

create the emotion that one feels when going home or back in time. Limited to 8 entries.

69. "Double Exposure" - Shutterbug fever is contagious. Grab your camera and capture some exposures of the beautiful show and merrymaking. Frame your favorite. An interpretive arrangement, using two arrangements with 5" allowed in front of picture frame for first arrangement and 5" allowed in back for second arrangement. Plan your arrangements to create a mirror image. Limited to 6 entries.

70. "Aquarena Springs" - Take a journey in a glass-bottom boat and see over 100 varieties of aquatic life. Then submerge to the Submarine Theatre to see the underwater show featuring lovely girls and laughing clowns. Create an interpretive underwater flower arrangement reflecting the movement of the water ballerinas or the crowds gaiety, to be viewed from one side only. Container must not exceed 14" in any direction. Limited to 8 entries.

Special Exhibits Division

Section XIV - Education Exhibit

71. Education exhibit (by invitation)

Section XV - Affiliate Publications

72. Yearbooks (once-a-year publications)

73. Newsletters (16 pages or less)

74. Magazines (more than 16 pages)

Commercial Horticulture Division

Section XVI - Specimen Plants

75. AVSA Collections

76. New Cultivars (from seed or mutation)

a. Standard African Violets

b. Miniature African Violets

c. Semiminiature African Violets

d. Trailer African Violets (standard, miniature, semiminiature)

77. Specimen African Violets

a. Standard, plain green foliage

b. Standard, variegated foliage

c. Miniatures

d. Semiminiatures

e. Trailers (standard, miniature, semiminiature)

f. *Saintpaulia* species

78. Gesneriads (other than African Violets)

Section XVII - Display Tables

79. Display Tables

Horticulture Division - Amateur Rules and Regulations

1. Only amateur AVSA members in good standing and registered at this convention are eligible to enter exhibits in this division.

2. ENTRIES will be accepted on Wednesday, April 13, from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M. from CONVENTION WORKERS ONLY. Entries will be accepted on Thursday, April 14, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. MEMBERS ON TOURS ONLY may enter on Thursday, April 14, from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If an entry is not entered by the owner, the name of the person making the entry must be on the back of the entry tag.

Entries may be checked out on Saturday, April 16, from 12:00 midnight (after the show closes) until 1:30 A.M., and on Sunday, April 17, from 8:00 to 10:00 A.M.

3. Only clean, healthy plants which have been in the possession of the exhibitor for at least three months will be accepted.

4. Plants must be correctly named or they will be subject to

correction by the classification committee.

5. Double-potting, flared top pots, supports, and collars will not be permitted. Any shape and type of pot (round, square, clay, plastic, Oyamas, "Moist-Rites," etc.) for specimen plants will be accepted. For uniformity, all pots must be covered with aluminum foil, dull side out, except pots containing trailers, trailing species, trailing gesneriads, and gesneriads in protective containers, which may be left uncovered.

6. An exhibitor may enter only one plant of each variety in classes 2 through 45.

7. An exhibitor may enter plants of the same variety in classes 1, 48, and 49 as those in classes 1 through 45.

8. All plants in classes 1 through 49 must be single-crown plants except trailers and some species, which may be multiple-crown.

9. Any number of new cultivars may be entered provided they have been originated by the exhibitor from hybridization, from purchased seeds, or from mutation; or the released rights in writing from the hybridizer have been given to the exhibitor for purchased seedlings. New cultivars may be entered by number or

name, and the entry tag must indicate whether it is a new cultivar from seed or mutation. A sport (mutant) may be exhibited as a "Sport of _____. If a name has been given to the sport, the name in parenthesis may follow, such as "Sport of 'Valencia' ('Dale's Dream'). New cultivars must not have been previously shown in an AVSA Convention Show.

10. Gesneriads (other than African violets) may be exhibited in protective containers, and neutral-colored mulch may be used on the soil surface.

11. Exhibits will be judged by the merit method of judging. The decisions of the judges will be final. Only qualified AVSA judges will be permitted to serve as judges.

12. Only blue ribbon winners will be eligible to receive awards.

13. Any African violet entered in AVSA Collection, class 1, receiving a blue ribbon, will also be eligible for other awards, except in color designated classes (blue, pink, etc.).

14. AVSA will afford all possible protection to exhibits, but will not be responsible for any damages or losses.

Design Division Rules and Regulations

1. Both amateur and commercial AVSA members in good standing and registered at this convention are eligible to enter exhibits in this division.

2. **ENTRIES** will be accepted on Wednesday, April 13, from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M. from **CONVENTION WORKERS ONLY**. Entries will be accepted on Thursday, April 14, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. **MEMBERS ON TOURS ONLY** may enter on Thursday, April 14, from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Each exhibitor may have only one entry per class.

All entries must be the creation of the exhibitor, and must be placed by the exhibitor.

Exhibitors will be permitted to work on their designs on Thursday, April 14, until 10:00 P.M., and on Friday, April 15, from 6:00 to 8:00 A.M. All exhibitors and their materials must be out of the show room by 8:00 A.M., Friday, April 15.

3. The American flag (or facsimile), artificial plant material, and live creatures may not be used in any design exhibit.

4. Dried, treated, weathered, and colored plant materials may be used in all classes. Accessories and bases may be used in all classes.

5. Draping or backgrounds may be used in all classes except classes 55 through 57 and classes 69 and 70.

6. No part of a design may touch or extend beyond the confines of the niche.

7. All entries must have a white 3" x 5" card listing the African violet varieties and other plant material (if known) used. A written subtitle defining the exhibitor's interpretation of the class may also be included on the cards, but it is not a requirement.

8. Exhibits will be judged by the merit method of judging. The decisions of the judges will be final. Only qualified AVSA judges will be permitted to serve as judges.

9. Only blue ribbon winners will be eligible to receive awards.

10. AVSA will afford all possible protection to exhibits, but will not be responsible for any damages or losses.

11. Anyone desiring to reserve space in the design division must send a reservation blank by March 1, 1988 to: Mrs. Mary Stallings, 3709 Glenmount Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76133. Exhibitors who wish to cancel reservations must write Mrs. Stallings or call (817) 292-4293.

Special Exhibits Division Rules and Regulations

1. Only AVSA affiliates in good standing are eligible to enter yearbooks, newsletters and magazines.

2. Yearbooks must be mailed to African Violet Council of Florida. Please send three copies to the Judges' Chairman, Mrs. Janet DuCharme, 1618 High Point Court, S.W., Winter Haven, FL 33880. Entries must be mailed in sufficient time to allow receipt by the judges' chairman no later than March 1, 1988.

3. Newsletters and magazines must be mailed to the Atchafalaya Violet Society of America, Mr. George Ramirez, Judges' Chairman, 1620 Willowbend Drive, Morgan City, LA 70380. A complete year of issues between January 1 and December 31 shall be submitted for judging. Entries must be mailed in sufficient time to allow receipt by the judges' chairman no later than March 1, 1988.

Commercial Horticulture Division

Rules and Regulations

1. Only commercial AVSA members in good standing and registered at this convention are eligible to enter either the Specimen Plant section or the Display Table Section, but not both. They may also enter the Design Division.

2. For dates and times for entering exhibits, please refer to Rule 2 under HORTICULTURE DIVISION AMATEUR.

3. All plants must be correctly named, and all African violets must be single crown plants, except trailers, some species, and trailing gesneriads.

4. In the specimen Plant Section, exhibitors may enter any number of plants in each class, but only one plant of the same variety in the same class. Exhibitors may enter plants of the same variety in the AVSA Collection, class 75, as are entered in the other classes.

5. Only plants labeled "New Cultivar" in either the Specimen Plant Section or Display Tables Section will be considered for AVSA Best New Cultivar Awards.

6. Entries for AVSA Best New Cultivar Awards may be seedlings (or plants originally from seed), sports, or mutant originated by the exhibitor or the right and ownership to them released by the hybridizer, and must not have been previously shown in an AVSA Convention Show. Each entry must be labeled "New Cultivar."

7. A covered 6' table with three tiers will be furnished for each exhibitor in the Display Table Section.

8. Each display table shall contain 15 plants (no merchandise). Three miniatures, semiminiatures, or miniature or semiminiature trailers shall count as a specimen plant and be judged as one unit. The display must be predominantly (at least 75%) African violets. Other gesneriads may be included in the 15 plants and will be judged.

9. Any plant, up to a maximum of 15 plants, on a display table

may be designated as competing for the AVSA Best New Cultivar Awards, either standard, semiminiature, miniature or all sizes of trailers, either standard, semiminiature or miniature.

10. No other material, such as ivy, may be used in a display table.

11. Colored lights which distort or enhance the color of the plants will not be permitted.

12. Double-potting, flared top pots, supports, and collars will not be permitted. Any shape and type of pot for specimen plants will be accepted. Pots in the Specimen Plant Section must be covered with aluminum foil, dull side out. Pots in the Display Table Section do not have to be covered, and may be elevated and tilted with individual display pot holders.

13. Prior to judging, signs, cards, or codes identifying the exhibitor may not be displayed on the display tables.

14. Exhibits will be judged by the merit method of judging. The decision of the judges will be final. Only qualified AVSA judges will be permitted to serve as judges.

15. Only blue ribbon winners will be eligible to receive awards.

16. AVSA will afford all possible protection to exhibits, but will not be responsible for any damages or losses.

17. Commercial Silver Trophies will be awarded as merited to the exhibitors of the Display Tables receiving the first, second and third highest number of points. An Honorable Mention Rosette will be awarded to the exhibitor receiving the fourth highest number of points.

18. A Point-Score Sheet shall be given each Display Table Exhibitor to show how trophies are awarded.

19. To reserve a display table or for further information, contact J. R. (Sundown) Pittman, 12406 Alexandria St., San Antonio, Texas 78233. Phone (512) 656-0128.

African Violet Society of America, Inc.
Dallas, Texas April 10-17, 1988 STAR #S81220

One call to American brings your meeting to order.

That's all it takes. Just call one number and American's Meeting ServicesSM Desk will be at your disposal to help you make all your meeting or convention travel arrangements.

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1988 Dallas Convention Show

Society Awards

AVSA Silver Cup and Rosette - For the best variety in amateur classes 1 thru 44.

Award of Merit Rosette and \$15 cash for the second best variety in amateur classes 1 thru 44.

Honorable Mention Rosette and \$10 for the third best variety in amateur classes 1 thru 44.

AVSA Collection Awards for three different registered varieties - Gold Rosette, best collection; Purple Rosette, second, in amateur class 1.

Trophies for Commercial Display Tables - 10" Silver bowl for best; 8" Silver bowl, second; 6" Silver bowl, third; Honorable Mention Rosette, fourth.

Best New Cultivar Award - A plaque will be awarded to the commercial member having the best

new cultivar, commercial classes 76 or 79.

Silver Cup and Rosette - For the best variety in commercial classes 75 or 77.

AVSA Collection Awards for three different registered varieties - Gold Rosette, best collection; Purple Rosette, second in commercial class 75.

Yearbook Awards - Four awards as follows: First, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5; fourth, \$4, class 72.

Publication Awards - Newsletters (16 pages or less); First, Blue Rosette; second, Red Rosette, class 73. Magazines (more than 16 pages); First, Blue Rosette; second, Red Rosette, class 74.

Special Awards

Amateur

AVS of Northern Illinois, Inc., \$10

AVS of San Francisco, \$10

Central Texas Judges Council, \$10

Tristate AVC, \$25

Fort Worth AVS, \$10

Libby Watkins, \$5

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Re, \$10

Humbolt County AVS, \$10

Wilson's Violet Haven, \$10

Amy and Irene, \$10

Spring Branch AVC, \$10

AV Study Club of Houston, \$50

New Jersey Council of AV Judges, \$25

Sweet Vi-O-Lets, \$10

Martha Turner, \$15

Northern California Council, \$25

AVS of Staten Island, \$10

First Austin AVS, \$10

Mary Alice Barta, \$10

Columbus AVS, \$10

Ruth Wheeler, \$10

Lower Buck's County AVC, Miksa bone china cake plate

Fort Worth AVS, \$60

St. Louis AV Judges Council, \$15

Saintpaulia Society, \$10

Flowertown Violet Club, \$10

First Arlington AVS, \$10

Keystone AVS, \$10

AVS of Greater Kansas City, \$10

Mid-America AVS, \$10

Metropolitan St. Louis AV Council, \$25

Ovella Ruth Hall, \$15

Missouri Valley AV Council, \$20

Mary Walbrick, \$10

First AVS of Wichita Falls, \$10

Raymond Dooley, \$10

Cathy Scheel, Crafty Cathy, Set of Self Watering Pots

Cathy Scheel, Crafty Cathy, Set of Self Watering Pots

AV Council of Southern California, \$25

Albuquerque AVC, \$25

AVS of Philadelphia, \$25

Baltimore AVC, \$25

Julia Fladt, \$10

Diane Mugovero, China bell

J&J Swift "Moist-Rites," 6 planters

Quad Cities AVS, \$25

AVS of Minnesota, \$50

Zanobia, Hand painted violet plate

Pomona Valley AVS, \$10

Cen-Tex Rainbow AVC, \$10

Paula & Bill Foster, \$20
Union County Chapter of AVSA, \$20
Central Florida AVS, \$15
Rosettes for Best in Class, classes 2 thru 54.
Ruth Wheeler, \$15
AVS of Jacksonville, \$15
Commercial
North Texas AV Judges Council, \$100

Mrs. Marion E. Albright, \$25
First Nighter AVS of Dallas, \$200
First AVS of Dallas, \$200
Mrs. Anna Dooley, \$10
Cathy Scheel, Crafty Cathy, Self Watering Pots,
Conch Shells
Swifts' - 6 J&J Swift "Moist-Rites"
New York State AVS, Silver

Named Varieties for Awards

Amateur

'Mini Mam,' Mrs. Sidney Bogin, Silver
'Wee Hummer,' Magic Knight AVS, \$10
'Beginner's Luck,' Bob L. Green, \$25
'Wilson Rhea,' Grace Davis, hand painted plate
'Ann,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Bee Jay,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Blackie Bryant,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Caire Cutie,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Gladys,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Dallas Doozie,' Betty Bryant, \$10
'Georgeous Geanie,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Texas,' Betty Bryant, \$10
'Texas Hotshot,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'The Houstonian,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Mint Julep,' Betty Bryant, \$5
'Wrangler's Jealous Heart,' Winston G. Smith, \$25
'Wrangler's Dixie Celebration,' Winston G. Smith,
\$25
'Wrangler's Canyon Echoes,' Winston G. Smith,
\$25
'Wrangler's Pink Patches,' Winston G. Smith, \$25
'Mickey Mouse,' Hans & Everdina Inpijn, \$10
'Frances Young,' "President's Award," Mrs. Fred
Young, \$25
'Little Seagull,' Mrs. James Savage, \$10
'Emilie Savage,' Mrs. James Savage, \$10
'Pink Cameo,' Tinari Greenhouses, \$25
'Winnegreen,' Hortense & Sundown Pittman, \$10
'Precious Pink,' Hortense & Sundown Pittman, \$10
'Magic Blue,' Hortense & Sundown Pittman, \$10
'Little Jim,' New York State AVS, In memory of
Jimmy Watson, \$10
'Bertha,' Alpha AVS of Dallas, hand painted plate
'Greg,' Alpha AVS of Dallas, hand painted plate
'Alpha Grace,' Alpha AVS of Dallas, hand painted
plate

'Alpha Charlie,' Alpha AVS of Dallas, hand painted
plate
'Fantasy Sensation,' Granger Gardens, \$25
'Mauna Kea,' Granger Gardens, \$25
'Cherokee Trail,' AVS of Western New York, In
memory of Bill Wagner, Rosette
'Granger's Kilauea,' Ohio State AVS, \$10
'JAVA,' Jefferson AV Association, \$5 and Rosette
'Snuggles,' Paul & Sidney Sorano, \$10
'Toy Castle,' Paul & Sidney Sorano, \$10
Commercial
'Mini Mam,' Sidney & Paul Sorano, \$10

Hybridizers: Sundown Needs Your Slides

The New Introduction slide program will
be given at the Saturday Luncheon at the
Dallas Convention. Sundown Pittman needs
your slides no later than March 28, 1988 in
order to include them in this new cultivar
introduction program.

This slide program has received many
favorable comments and it is up to you (the
hybridizers) to help make it the best ever.

Sundown Pittman is Chairman of Sales and
Exhibits and would like to receive suggestions
or comments from Commercial members and
hybridizers.

Don't forget — the deadline is March 28,
1988.

Send the slides to:

J. R. (Sundown) Pittman
12406 Alexandria
San Antonio, TX 78233

African Violet Society of America, Inc.

42nd Annual Convention

April 10-17, 1988

Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion

Dallas, TX

Call for 1988 Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., will be held Saturday, April 16, 1988, at 4:00 p.m., at the Hyatt Regency, Dallas, TX, for the purpose of electing officers and transacting business that may properly come before the meeting.

Call for 1988 Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors meeting will be held Wednesday, April 13, 1988, at 8:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency, Dallas, TX, for the purpose of transacting business that may properly come before the meeting.

Call for 1988 Open Forum Meeting

The fourth annual Open Forum meeting of the Board of Directors will be held Wednesday, April 13, 1988, at the Hyatt Regency, Dallas, TX, at 7:00 p.m., at which time the Board of Directors of AVSA will welcome any and all AVSA members to come and present any suggestions, ideas, questions, etc., that they may wish.

Registration For Judging School For New Students and Certificate Renewals

Hyatt Regency
Dallas, Texas

April 13, 1988

Teacher
Bob L. Green

An AVSA judging school will be held on Wednesday for AVSA members who want to take their first judge's test and for AVSA judges who want to renew their certificates. The lecture will be from 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon and *must be attended* in order to take the test. The test begins at 2:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$3.00 and AVSA membership cards must be presented. Proof of blue ribbons is required for those renewing certificates.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Fill out this form (or facsimile) plus registration fee of \$3.00 (make check payable to AVSA) and send to Bob L. Green, 997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955 by March 1, 1988.

The test will be based on the 1986 AVSA Handbook, which is available from AVSA, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. The cost is \$9.95, which includes postage.

"Grand Reunion in Texas with Violets"

April 9-17, 1988 — Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion, Dallas, TX 75207

AVSA CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS BEFORE MARCH 15, 1988

ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE ON THIS REMOVABLE FORM OR A PHOTOCOPY OF IT. Two registration blanks are provided. For additional registrations, please copy this blank form and complete one registration form for each member as well as each non-member. Use separate form for hotel reservations. Non-Members are entitled to participate in all activities except those requiring membership card for entry. Current AVSA Membership Card required at Registration.

Please Print Name, Address, Telephone:

Mr/Mrs/Miss	Last Name	First Name	Initial	Area Code/Phone No.
Street or P. O. Box		Apt. #	City/State	Zip
<u>Circle Appropriate Status:</u>				
(A) Individual Member (E) Senior Judge (H) Judging School Teacher	(B) Life Member (F) Master Judge (I) Bronze Medal Winner	(C) Associate Member (G) Commercial Member (J) Board Member	(D) Judge (K) Non-Member (Guest)	
This is my (#) _____ Convention				
Travel by Plane _____	Rental Car _____	Personal Car _____	Other _____	
Whom do we notify in case of emergency? Name: _____				
Relationship	Address	Area Code/Phone No.		

Send payment and completed registration form to:

Mary Lou Harden

910 West Hilsboro, Seffner, Florida 33584

(813) 689-8700

NOTE: Cancellations must be received by March 15, 1988, to be entitled to a refund. PERSONS WISHING TO BE SEATED TOGETHER AT MEALS MUST MAIL REGISTRATIONS IN THE SAME ENVELOPE.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION:

AVSA or Associate Member	\$20.00	\$ _____
AVSA or Associate Member (After March 15, 1988)	25.00	\$ _____
Non-Member (Guest)	23.00	\$ _____
Non-Member (Guest) (After March 15, 1988)	28.00	\$ _____

MEALS:

1	Saturday, April 9 - Executive Committee Lunch	\$11.75	\$ _____
2	Sunday, April 10 - Board Lunch	11.75	\$ _____
3	Tuesday, April 12 - Box Lunch	8.50	\$ _____
4	Wednesday, April 13 - Box Lunch	8.50	\$ _____
5	Thursday, April 14 - Box Lunch	8.50	\$ _____
6	Friday, April 15 - Teachers' Breakfast	9.75	\$ _____
7	Friday, April 15 - Box Lunch	8.50	\$ _____
8	Friday, April 15 - Dinner	23.00	\$ _____
9	Saturday, April 16 - Judges' Breakfast	9.75	\$ _____
10	Saturday, April 16 - Commercial Breakfast	9.75	\$ _____
11	Saturday, April 16 - Lunch	14.00	\$ _____
12	Saturday, April 16 - Box Lunch	8.50	\$ _____
13	Saturday, April 16 - Dinner	25.00	\$ _____
14	Sunday, April 17 - Convention Committees Breakfast	9.75	\$ _____
15	Sunday, April 17 - Board Lunch	11.75	\$ _____

(Continued to next page)

TOURS (*Meal included):

A-1 Saturday, April 9 - Mesquite Rodeo	\$23.00	\$_____	
B-1 Sunday, April 10 - Old City Park	CANCELLED	28.00	\$_____
B-2 Tuesday, April 12 - Old City Park		28.00	\$_____
C-1 Sunday, April 10 - City Tour		22.50	\$_____
D-1 Monday, April 11 - Southfork-Olla Podrida		27.00	\$_____
D-2 Wednesday, April 13 - Southfork-Olla Podrida		27.00	\$_____
E-1 Monday, April 11 - Volkmann's Greenhouses		12.50	\$_____
F-1 Monday, April 11 - Spaghetti Warehouse*		22.50	\$_____
F-2 Wednesday, April 13 - Spaghetti Warehouse*		22.50	\$_____
G-1 Tuesday, April 12 - East Texas Tour		42.00	\$_____
H-1 Tuesday, April 12 - Butcher Shop*		33.00	\$_____
I-1 Wednesday, April 13 - Fort Worth		32.50	\$_____
J-1 Thursday, April 14 - Dallas Arboretum		17.50	\$_____
K-1 Thursday, April 14 - Fair Park Garden Center*		32.00	\$_____
L-1 Thursday, April 14 - Mercado Juarez*		28.00	\$_____
M-1 Sunday, April 17 - Six Flags Over Texas		36.00	\$_____

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED

\$_____

Check or money order enclosed payable to AVSA CONVENTION ACCOUNT

Visa # _____ Mastercard # _____ Expires _____

Signature _____

PRESENTATIONS**Friday, April 15**

I 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.	"New Friends and Relatives by Hybridizing" by Mary Ann Corrigan	_____
II 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.	"Kissin' Cousins - Gesneriads" by Marna Striepens	_____
III 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	"Kissin' Cousins - Gesneriads" by Marna Striepens	_____
IV 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	"Reunion Buffet - Feeding our Plants" by Melanie Turner	_____
V 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	"Reunion Airlines - Mobiles" by Jim and Norita Hallum	_____
VI 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	"Uninvited Guests - A Talk on Pests" by Dr. Charles Cole	_____

Saturday, April 16

VII 9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	"New Family Members' Orientation: Beginners' Forum" Moderator: Mary Boland Panel: Nancy Hayes, Hortense Pittman, Emilie Savage	_____
VIII 9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	"Reunion Buffet - Feeding our Plants" by Melanie Turner	_____
IX 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	"Uninvited Guests - A Talk on Pests" by Dr. Charles Cole	_____
X 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	"Potluck: Hands-On Design" by Hugh Mackey	_____



Convention Tours

Tour A-1

Saturday, April 9, 1988

Leave: 6:15 p.m.

Return: 11:15 p.m.

MESQUITE RODEO

Cost: \$23.00

Put on your cowboy gear for a night of true Texas entertainment. This evening, you will see some of the traditional sporting events of the wild, wild west. Arriving at the arena, you can mosey on over to the Chuck Wagon Cafeteria for real Texas fare. After dinner (on your own), you can kick back for the western competition with high kickin' broncs, sharp shootin', calf ropers, pretty barrel racers, daredevil clowns, brawny steer wrestlers, fearless bull riders and rodeo bulls with names like "Wipe Out" and "Exterminator."

Old City Park



Cancelled on this date - Sunday, April 10, 1988

Tour B-1

Sunday, April 10, 1988

Leave: 9:45 a.m.

Return: 1:30 p.m.

OLD CITY PARK

Cost: \$28.00

"History Worth Repeating"

Stroll through the past . . . step inside Miller Log Cabin, smell the hand-hewn cedar walls, see pioneer life in the rustic furnishings. Nearby, watch the potter stoke the groundhog kiln, see the blacksmith at his forge. In the Victorian section, there is the gingerbread trim George house, or the turn-of-the-century doctor's office. Main Street brings you to the Print Shop, where the printer handsets type and operates the 100-year-old presses. Across the street at the General Store, the hightop shoes, toiletries and dry goods present commerce in the early 1900s. Over 35 historic buildings and their stories await your discovery in Old City Park. Lunch: Brent Place, a charming 1876 farmhouse serving homemade recipes based on old Texas recipes.

Tour C-1

Sunday, April 10, 1988

Leave: 2:00 p.m.

Return: 6:00 p.m.

CITY TOUR

Cost: \$22.50



Take in the landmarks and history of "Big D."

Our tour will include the downtown area, the Kennedy sites, the award-winning City Hall, the Dallas Market Center, including the Infomart, the SMU Campus, the Los Collinas area, and the beautiful Highland Park residential area. (Meal not included.)

Tour D-1

Monday, April 11, 1988

Leave: 9:00 a.m.

Return: 3:00 p.m.

SOUTHFORK-OLLA PODRIDA

Cost: \$27.00



Tour JR's famous ranch grounds and house. Thoroughbreds, cattle and buffalo graze contentedly, reminding us that this is a real working ranch. Ride to the top of an oil derrick and sit around the famous pool. Arriving back in Dallas, we will visit Olla Podrida, "The Working Artisan's Place." Treasures for family and friends are easily found in this split-level, rustic craft mart. Several restaurants allow you a choice for lunch. (Meal not included.)

Tour E-1

Monday, April 11, 1988

Shuttlebuses:

VOLKMANN'S GREENHOUSES

Cost: \$12.50



Shuttles will run from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for a visit to Volkmann's Greenhouses for viewing and purchasing. Volkmann's is one of the oldest African violet nurseries in the country and a long-time supplier to AVSA members. (Meal not included.)

Tour F-1

Monday, April 11, 1988

Leave: 7:00 p.m.

Return: 11:00 p.m.

SPAGHETTI WAREHOUSE

Cost: \$22.50



Dinner at Dallas Alley's Spaghetti Warehouse. A memorable dining experience in the Historic West End, Dallas' most unique restaurant and retail district, rich in historically preserved buildings that

date to the turn of the century.



**Tour G-1
Tuesday, April 12, 1988**

Leave: 9:00 a.m.

Return 6:00 p.m.

EAST TEXAS TOUR

Cost: \$42.00

THE ROSE GARDEN, Tyler, Texas: 22-acre park displaying 38,000 rose bushes. This showplace of the "Rose Capital of the United States" draws hundreds of thousands of people from all over the world.

KILGORE, Texas: You are in for a wildcat experience . . . Kilgore Oil Museum and World's Richest Acre: At one of the features of the museum, you will be whisked down to the origin of all that black gold. Luncheon in oil baron's former estate on your own.

**Tour B-2
Tuesday, April 12, 1988**

Leave: 9:45 a.m.

Return: 1:30 p.m.

OLD CITY PARK

Cost: \$28.00

Repeat of Tour B-1

**Tour H-1
Tuesday, April 12, 1988**

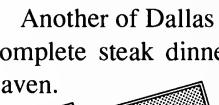
Leave: 7:00 p.m.

Return: 11:00 p.m.

THE BUTCHER SHOP

Cost: \$33.00

STEAKHOUSE



Another of Dallas Alley's famous restaurants. A complete steak dinner at this well-known diner's haven.



**Tour I-1
Wednesday, April 13, 1988**

Leave: 9:00 a.m.

Return: 4:30 p.m.

FORT WORTH

Cost: \$32.50

"Fort Worth — Where the West Begins" Just 35 miles west of Dallas is a totally different culture. Mosey through the earthy Stockyards area, including Billy Bob's Texas, world's largest honky-tonk. Lunch on your own at one of many restaurants. Then on to another side of Fort Worth's culture - the Botanic Gardens. Seven and a half of the 114 acres

include the lovely Japanese Gardens, a rare and beautiful treat of flowers, lush landscape and ponds amidst Japanese pagodas and teahouses. Don't miss it.

Tour D-2

Wednesday, April 13, 1988

Leave: 9:00 a.m.

Return: 3:00 p.m.

SOUTHFORK-OLLA PODRIDA

Cost: \$27.00

Repeat of Tour D-1

Tour F-2

Wednesday, April 13, 1988

Leave: 7:00 p.m.

Return: 11:00 p.m.

SPAGHETTI WAREHOUSE

Cost: \$22.50

Repeat of Tour F-1

Tour J-1

Thursday, April 14, 1988

Leave: 9:30 a.m.

Return: 12:30 p.m.

DALLAS ARBORETUM

Cost: \$17.50



Enjoy the 66-acre DeGolyer Estate with its unique Spanish Colonial mansion on the shores of White Rock Lake. This house is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Its formal gardens have been restored and the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society has added myriad seasonal gardens. There is constant experimentation and ever-changing scenery. This is true "Flora-bundance." (Meal not included.)

Tour K-1

Thursday, April 14, 1988

Leave: 9:30 a.m.

Return: 2:30 p.m.

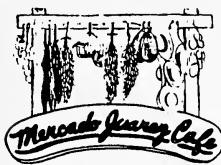
FAIR PARK -

GARDEN CENTER

Cost: \$32.00

The only remaining Art Deco World's Fair, Fair Park was built to celebrate Texas' hundredth birthday and is the site of the world's largest state fair. We will spend time at the Dallas Garden Center on the fair grounds and then have lunch at the Science Place. On the way back, we will pass through Swiss

Avenue, seeing the historic homes of Dallas' early millionaires.



Tour L-1
Thursday, April 14, 1988
Leave: 7:00 p.m.
Return: 11:00 p.m.
MEXICAN FIESTA
Cost: \$28.00

"Mexican Fiesta" A delicious Mexican Dinner in a colorful atmosphere at Mercado Juarez with Mariachi music. There is a "mercado" - shopping area - adjoining.



Tour M-1
Sunday, April 17, 1988
Leave: 9:30 a.m.
Return: 4:30 p.m.
SIX FLAGS OVER TEXAS
Cost: \$36.00

A day of fun at one of the state's top tourist attractions. The 205-acre park offers an enormous variety of rides, shows, shops and restaurants amidst a beautiful landscape. Meals on your own.

HYATT REGENCY DALLAS

Hotel Reservation

1988 AVSA Convention, Show and Annual Membership Meeting

Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion
300 Reunion Boulevard, Dallas, TX 75207

phone (214) 651-1234
April 10 - 17, 1988

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number _____ *room rate \$70.00 per day
(room rates apply 3 days before and after convention)

Signature _____

Arrival Date _____ Time _____

Departure Date _____ Time _____

In order to guarantee your reservation, please enclose one night's deposit including taxes or your Visa, MasterCard or American Express Carte Blanche number. (circle one used)

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Reservations request must be received, by hotel, on or before March 11, 1988. Reservations after that date will be confirmed on an availability basis at the current published rate. Deposit fully refunded if cancelled 48 hours prior to arrival date. Confirmation of registration will be mailed to you by hotel. Room rates subject to 13% sleeping room tax.

Check in time - 3:00 p.m.

Check out time - 12 noon

Attention: Judges

All Advanced, Senior and Master Judges are eligible to judge in the Dallas convention show. If you would like to judge, please fill in the blank and mail to Mrs. Emilie Savage, 39 Mead Dr., Chillicothe, OH 45601, no later than March 1, 1988. If you plan to exhibit in the show, please indicate on blank which class or classes you will enter. Do not serve on entries, classification or placement if you apply to judge. Please indicate below if you are experienced in any of the listed areas.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Type of Judge: Experience: Classes entered:

Advanced Minis _____

Senior Trailers _____

Master Species _____

AGGS Design _____

Nat'l Council Commercial _____

Judges Clerks

Student and Advanced Judges are invited to serve as clerks. Any vacancies may be filled by other AVSA members. This means that AVSA members may apply to serve as clerks; however, judges will be given first preference. Any positions remaining will be filled by members in order in which applications are received. All clerks will receive letter of notification, explaining duties. Please fill in the blank and mail to Mrs. Emilie Savage, 39 Mead Dr., Chillicothe, OH 45601, not later than March 1, 1988.

Name _____

Street _____

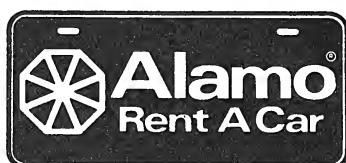
City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Student Judge _____

Advanced Judge _____

AVSA member _____



ALAMO RENT A CAR
is the Official Car Rental
Agency for the
Dallas Convention!

Call 1-800-732-3232
Group ID # 30533
Plan Code F-4

Reservations - Design Division

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

List the classes for which you are making a reservation:

Send this reservation form (or facsimile) by March 1, 1988 to: Mrs. Mary Stallings, 3709 Glenmont Drive, Ft. Worth, Texas 76133. Reservations will be on a first come basis. Exhibitors who wish to cancel reservations must write Mrs. Stallings or call (817) 292-4293.

African Violet Society of America, Inc.

42nd Annual Convention & Show

Sunday, April 10 - Sunday, April 17, 1988 -Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion
300 Reunion Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75207 • (214) 651-1234

Theme: Grand Reunion In Texas With Violets

Convention sponsored by: First African Violet Society of Dallas, Lone Star African Violet Council, First Nighters African Violet Society, & Alpha African Violet Society

**** N O T E **** All tours meet in Hotel Lobby

Saturday, April 9, 1988

AM 24 hrs	Director's Office
AM 24 hrs	Convention Chairman's Office
AM 24 hrs	Storage
11 a.m. - noon	New Board Member Orientation
Noon - completion	Executive Committee Meeting & Luncheon
1 - 3 p.m.	Nominating Committee Meeting
3:30 p.m. - completion	Vice Presidents meet with committees
6:15 - 11:15 p.m.	Mesquite Rodeo

Sunday, April 10, 1988

AM 24 hrs	Director's Office
AM 24 hrs	Convention Chairman's Office
AM 24 hrs	Storage
9:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Old City Park
10 a.m. - completion	Board of Directors Meeting
2 - 6 p.m.	City Tour

Monday, April 11, 1988

6 a.m. - midnight	Director's Office
6 a.m. - midnight	Convention Chairman's Office
6 a.m. - midnight	Storage
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	Registration FOR THOSE ON EARLY TOURS ONLY
8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Registration for those NOT on early tours
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Convention Information
9 a.m. - noon	Volkmann's Greenhouses
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Southfork & Olla Podrida
10 a.m. - noon	Preconvention conference with Hotel
7 - 8 p.m.	Publication Committee Meeting
7 - 11 p.m.	Spaghetti Factory
8 p.m. - adjournment	Publication Meeting

**** IMPORTANT NOTICE ****

All questions for the Judges Workshop MUST be submitted in writing to the Registration Desk for the Moderator by 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Tuesday, April 12, 1988

AM 24 Hrs	Director's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Convention Chairman's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Storage
8 a.m. - midnight	Miscellaneous meetings
7:30 - 8 a.m.	Registration FOR THOSE ON EARLY TOURS ONLY
7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Convention Information
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Registration for those NOT on early tours
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Tyler Rose Garden & Kilgore
9:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Old City Park
9 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Commercial Sales area available for set up
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Exhibitors may obtain an entry sheet & entry cards
Noon - 4:30 p.m.	AVSA Information & Sales
1 - 2 p.m.	Convention Director meets with those interested in hosting a convention
2 - 5 p.m.	Shows & Judges Meeting
3 - 5 p.m.	Convention Committee meets
3 - 6 p.m.	Classification
3 - 6 p.m.	Entries
7 - 11 p.m.	The Butcher Shop
8 - 10 p.m.	President's reception for Board Members

Wednesday, April 13, 1988

AM 24 Hrs	Director's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Convention Chairman's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Storage
8 a.m. - midnight	Miscellaneous meetings
7:30 - 8 a.m.	Registration FOR THOSE ON EARLY TOURS ONLY
7 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Convention Information
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Registration for those NOT on early tours
7:30 a.m. - noon	Judging School Lecture
8 a.m. - noon	Show Room available for set up
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Southfork & Olla Podrida
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Fort Worth
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Commercial Sales Open
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Classification
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Entries
9 - 11 a.m. & 1 - 4:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
9 a.m. - noon & 1 - 4:30 p.m.	AVSA Information & Sales
2 - 3:30 p.m.	Judging School Examination
4 - 6 p.m.	Entries & Classification CONVENTION WORKERS ONLY
5 - 6:30 p.m.	Lone Star State Meeting
7 - 8 p.m.	Open Forum
7 - 11 p.m.	Spaghetti Factory
7 - 9 p.m.	Commercial Sales open

8:30 p.m. to adjournment	Board of Directors Meeting
	Thursday, April 14, 1988
AM 24 Hrs	Director's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Convention Chairman's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Storage
8 a.m. - midnight	Miscellaneous meetings
8 - 9 a.m.	Registration FOR THOSE ON EARLY TOURS ONLY
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Convention Information
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Registration for those NOT on early tours.
7 a.m. - noon	Show Room available for set up
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Commercial Sales Open
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Dallas Arboretum
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Fair Park - Garden Center
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Classification
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Entries
9 - 11 a.m. & 1 - 4:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
9 a.m. - noon	AVSA Information & Sales
4 - 5 p.m.	Affiliate Editors Meeting
4 - 6 p.m.	Entries & Classification CONVENTION WORKERS ONLY
7 - 9 p.m.	Commercial Sales open
7 - 11 p.m.	Mexican Fiesta
8 - 10 p.m.	Social Hour & Slides with Mr. Ken Froboese
	Friday, April 15, 1988
AM 24 Hrs	Convention Director's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Convention Chairman's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Storage
6:30 a.m. - 1 a.m.	Show room
7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Registration
7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Convention Information
7 - 9 a.m.	Entries: Artistic Design - Exhibitors may complete exhibits
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	Teachers Breakfast - Speaker: Mr. Bob Green - "Tips & Techniques for Teaching"
8 a.m. - midnight	Miscellaneous meetings
8 a.m. - midnight	Dressing for locals
9 - 10 a.m.	Spouses get acquainted
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Commercial Sales open
9 - 11 a.m. & 1 - 4:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room open
9:30 - 11 a.m.	Presentation I - "New Friends & Relatives by Hybridizing," Mary Ann Corrigan
9:30 - 11 a.m.	Presentation II - "Kissin' Cousins - Gesneriads," Marna Striepens
9 a.m. - noon & 1 - 4:30 p.m.	AVSA Information & Sales
10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Judging of Show
1 - 2:30 p.m.	Presentation III - "Kissin' Cousins - Gesneriads," Marna Striepens
1 - 2:30 p.m.	Presentation IV - "Reunion Buffet - Feeding Our Plants," Melanie Turner
3 - 4:30 p.m.	Presentation V - "Reunion Airlines - Mobiles," Jim & Norita Hallum
3 - 4:30 p.m.	Presentation VI - "Uninvited Guests - A Talk on Pests," Dr. Charles Cole
4:30 p.m. - completion	Photography - Library and AVM
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Hospitality Hour (cash bar)
6:30 - 9:30 p.m.	DINNER - Convention Convenes - Presiding: Mrs. Mary Boland, 1st VP
9:30 p.m. - midnight	Show opens to AVSA CONVENTION REGISTRANTS ONLY
9:30 p.m. - midnight	Commercial Sales open
	Saturday, April 16, 1988
AM 24 Hrs	Convention Director's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Convention Chairman's Office
AM 24 Hrs	Storage
7 - 9 a.m.	Show room open for photography - Convention registrants ONLY
7:15 - 9 a.m.	Judges Workshop & Breakfast - Pauline Bartholomew "The Ethics of Judging"
JUDGES IN GOOD STANDING ONLY - UP-TO-DATE Judges Card MUST be shown at door. Badge ribbon is insufficient.	
7 - 9 a.m.	Commercial Members Breakfast & Meeting - Presiding: Mr. David Buttram
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Registration
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Convention Information
8 a.m. - midnight	Miscellaneous meetings
8 a.m. - midnight	Dressing for locals
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Show Room open to public & AVSA members (registered or not)
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Commercial Sales open
9:30 a.m. - noon & 1 - 4:30	AVSA Information & Sales
9:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Presentation VII - "New Family Members Orientation - Beginners Forum"
	Moderator, Mary Boland: Nancy Hayes, Hortense Pittman, Emilie Savage
9:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Presentation VIII - "Reunion Buffet - What We Feed Our Plants," Melanie Turner
9 a.m. - noon & 1:30 - 3 p.m.	Agriculture Officials available to certify plant material for transporting into controlled states & countries
9 - 11 a.m. & 1 - 4:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room open
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Presentation IX - "Uninvited Guests - Pests," Dr. Charles Cole
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Presentation X - "Pot Luck - Hands On," Design led by Mr. Hugh Mackey
1 - 3:30 p.m.	LUNCHEON - Presiding: Mrs. Hortense Pittman, 3rd VP
4 p.m. - completion	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	President's Reception & Hospitality Hour -non-alcoholic punch provided (cash bar)
6:30 p.m. - adjournment	INSTALLATION BANQUET - Presiding: Mrs. Frances Young, President
9:30 p.m. - midnight	Show open for AVSA members & public
9:30 p.m. - midnight	Commercial Sales open
Midnight - 1:30 a.m.	Entries may be checked out of show
Midnight - 1:30 a.m.	New York State Meeting
	Sunday, April 17, 1988
7 - 9 a.m.	Convention Committee's Breakfast meeting
8 - 10 a.m.	Entries may be checked out of show
8 a.m. - noon	Storage
8 a.m. - midnight	Convention Director's Office
8 a.m. - midnight	Convention Chairman's Office
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Six Flags Over Texas
10 a.m. - completion	Board of Directors Meeting



MIDGET MIDNIGHT — a Champion cultivar grown by Alice Droege

(AVSA Library Collection)

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are \$1.00 and are valid for two (2) years from the date they are received from the registrar.

Registrations

A. E. Adams, Cambridge, Ontario

***Bow Bells** - Mini - Single bell fused pale pink tutone with deeper edge and eye. Medium green plain foliage. #6715 8/22/87

***Heritage Frolic** - Semimini - Double frilled deep rose with green tinged white edge. Very dark, red reverse, slightly wavy, pointed foliage. #6716 8/22/87

***Little Bountiful** - Semimini - Double deep rose with white edge. Very dark plain, pointed foliage. #6718 8/22/87

***Tinker Toy** - Mini - Single lavender with deep mauve eye. Light green, quilted, pointed, hairy foliage. #6718 8/22/87

***Wunnerful** - Mini - Semidouble deep lavender two tone with deeper eye. Tommie Lou variegated, pointed foliage. #6719 8/22/87

Irene Fredette, Hamden, CT

***Honeybee** - Standard - Single pink. Variegated cream and green, plain foliage. #6720 8/28/87

Juanita May Loder, Bellevue, WA

***Yarrow Briar Rose** - Standard - Double white star chimera with pink edged petals and slight purple fantasy. Light, plain, pointed foliage. #6721 9/12/87

***Yarrow Summit** - Standard - Single white star chimera with center lavender blue stripe. Medium green quilted almost round foliage. #6722 9/12/87

Geo McDonald, Ripley, TN

***Lively Laura** - Standard - Single white sticktite star. Medium green quilted, slightly serrated foliage. #6723 9/16/87

D Wilson, Crawfordsville, IN

***Diamond Dust** - Semiminiature - Double white occasional pink tinge in center. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. #6731 7/24/87

Corrections

Minnie Mine #6202 - Change from Semimini to Mini. 8/22/87

Reservations

Annabelle Hart, Rome NY

* Fantasy Special * Pink Special * Snow White Trail
* Trailing William *

Joen Gehr, Land O' Lakes, WI

* Ambiance * Brandy Ice * Circe * Dark Orbit * Daytona * Drizzle * Finer Things * French Pastry * Good Morning America * Higher Love * Lady Hawk * Lady In Red * Little Big Shot * Mandolin Rain * Melody Rain * Milli-Jo * Pices * Rainbow Brite * Ruth Elizabeth * Smidgeon * Solar Fire * Solo Orbit * Spirit North * Starship * Sugar Spoon * Sun Wheel * Winter Olympic *

Marie Beeman, Healdsburg, CA

* Marie's Ann Smith * Marie's Aunt Mary * Marie's Frances Bufano * Marie's Frank Bufano * Marie's Kenny Bill * Marie's Lady Lillian * Marie's Little Bandit * Marie's Little Girl * Marie's Pacific Serenade * Marie's Pretty Corinne * Marie's Sincerely Winston * Marie's Stillwater Cove * Marie's Sweet Kitty * Marie's Three Bells *

Ralph Robinson, Tonawanda, NY

* Rob's Artful Dodger * Rob's Candy Apple * Rob's Clown Around * Rob's Copper Cat * Rob's Dancing Sparks * Rob's Ember Glow * Rob's Mischievous * Rob's Quasimoto * Rob's Sandstorm * Rob's Sundae Scoop * Rob's Little Josephine *

Are You Growing These Plants?

According to the International Code of Nomenclature, we may delete from our registration list, any cultivars ten years or older that are no longer being grown or used for hybridizing. Published below is a partial list of very early registrations that we would like to delete if they are no longer available. If you still grow any of these plants, please write and let me know so that they may be left as registered plants. Any plant not being grown, or used for hybridizing, will be considered obsolete and will be dropped from our next MVL. We have not included any plants with names that have historical value, such as the original ten, Tommie Lou, Joan Van Zele, etc. You have until June 30, 1988 to let us know about any name listed. If we receive no replies about specific registered plants by that date, we will assume they are no longer in circulation and remove them from our files. Send information to Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

All obsolete registration cards will be sent to the AVSA business office where they will be maintained in our archives.

D

Dainty Betty, #164; Dainty Maid, AVS-48; Dalene Rhodes, #165; Dark Star, #168; Dark Victory, #167; Darling, #169; Debbie Kae, #761; Debutante, #170; Dells of Wis, #166; Denver Doll, #922; Diana, #171; Diane, #172; Dixie Moonbeam, #707; Dixie Queen, #173; Doctor Rainey, #193; Dorinda, #851; Dorelene, #174; Double Arbutus Pink, #175; Double Blue Boy, AVS-48; Double Blue Boy Supreme, #176; Double Blue Delight, #177; Double Christmas Rose, #831; Double Clarissa Harris, #975; Double Dandy, #178; Double Darling, #179; Double Doris, #180; Double Honey Bud, #181; Double Inspiration, #859; Double Jubilee, #182; Double Lilac Bouquet, #813; Double Neptune, #183; Double Orchid Girl, #184; Double Painted Girl, #185; Double Pink Boy, #837; Double Pink Cheer, #186; Double Pink Cloud, #187; Double Pink Fire, #985; Double Pink Girl, #841; Double Pink Puff, #188; Double Pink Ripples, #942; Double Red Colleen, #784; Double Rose of Sharon, #772; Double Velvet Girl, #874; Double Wild Rosa, #190; Double Wine Velvet, #189; Dr. Frederick Swartz, #194; Dream Boat, #191; Dream Girl Supreme, #192; Dresden Dancer, #976; Dresden Dream, #773; Dresden Glory, #977; Dresden Lace, #978; Duchess, #195; Dunlap Blue, #854; Dupont Blue, AVS-48; Dupont Blue Delight, #196; Dupont Lavender Pink, AVS-48; Dupont Pink, #197; Dusty Rose, #709; Dwarf Ionantha, #198.

E

Easter Violet, #892; Ebbie A. Richmond, #897; Eclipse, #199; Edith Cavell, #200; Edna Fischer, #201; Eldus, #889; Elsted's Oak Leaf Cluster, #202; Elsted's Rudolph, #203; Elsted's Rudolph's Sister, #204; Emperor Wilhelm, #205; Estrellita,

#206; Ethiopia, #207; Eugenio, #208; Evelyn Johnson, #757; Even Tide, #210; Evening Star, #209.

F

Fairbury Beauty, #211; Faire, #983; Fairy Boats, #212; Fairy Dancer, #213; Fairy Queen, #214; Fancy Pants, #215; Fantasette, #216; Fantasy, #217; Fantasy Double Ann, #738; Fantasy Girl, #218; Fascination, #219; Fern Leaf Blue, #220; Fiesta, #221; Fineline, #710; Finlandia, #222; Fireman's Girl, #223; First Love, #224; Fischer's Aurora, #225; Fischer's Ballet, #226; Fischer's Blue Horizon, #227; Fischer's Bolero, #228; Fischer's Carrousel, #229; Fischer's Corona, #884; Fischer's Fire Dance, #885; Fischer's Minuet, #230; Fischer's Pink Sequins, #886; Fischer's Polonaise, #231; Fischer's Saraband, #232; Flamingo Girl, #233; Fleur De Lite, #234; Fleur Petite, #235; Floradora, #236; Florentine, #237; Florida Lady, #238; Floyd Johnson, #239; Fontana, #687; Francis, #240; Frathel's Debbie, #891; Frathel's Mardi Gras, #890; Frathel's Most Precious, #905; Frathel's My Orchid, #906; French Lace, #812; Frieda, AVS-48; Friendship, #241; Frilled Blue Lace, #806; Frilled Dupont, #242; Fringed Double White, #243; Fringem - Blue Berry, #244; Fringem Sunday Best, #245; Frosted Madonna, #839; Fuchsia Plaid, #246; Fuchsia Spoon, #247.

G

Galloway's Sensation, #248; Garnet Girl, #249; Gay Coquette, #250; Gay Lark, #251; Gay Paree, #252; General Grant, #850; General Herkimer, #253; General Putnam, #846; Genevieve, #254; Gent's Blue Cluster, #255; Gent's Blue Waves, #256; Gent's Rippling Geneva, #257; Georgiana, #258; Giant Killer, #829; Giant Purple Monarch, #861; Gibson Girl, #259; Glamour Boy, #688; Glitter, #689; Glorious, #260; Goddess of Love, #690; Gorgeous, AVS-48; Gorgeous Blue Wonder, #261; Gram's Fancy, #903; Grand Award, #262; Grand Pacific, #263; Granger Gardens Ann Rutledge, #924; Granger Gardens Blue Nocaturne, #925; Granger Gardens Cara Mia, #926; Granger Gardens Chartruse Lace, #927; Granger Gardens Ember Pink, #928; Granger Gardens Pink Caress, #929; Granger Gardens Rosalinda, #930; Granger Gardens Santa Maria, #931; Granger Gardens Thunderhead, #932; Granger Gardens White Goddess, #933; Granger Gardens White Orchid, #934; Grape Wine, #264; Great Lakes, #265; Greenfield's Double Beauty, #954; Grenadier, #266; Griffen's Mr. Big, #267; Gwen, #268; Gypsy, #269; Gypsy Girl, #270.



Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary
January 8, 1988

Gus and Maxine Becker

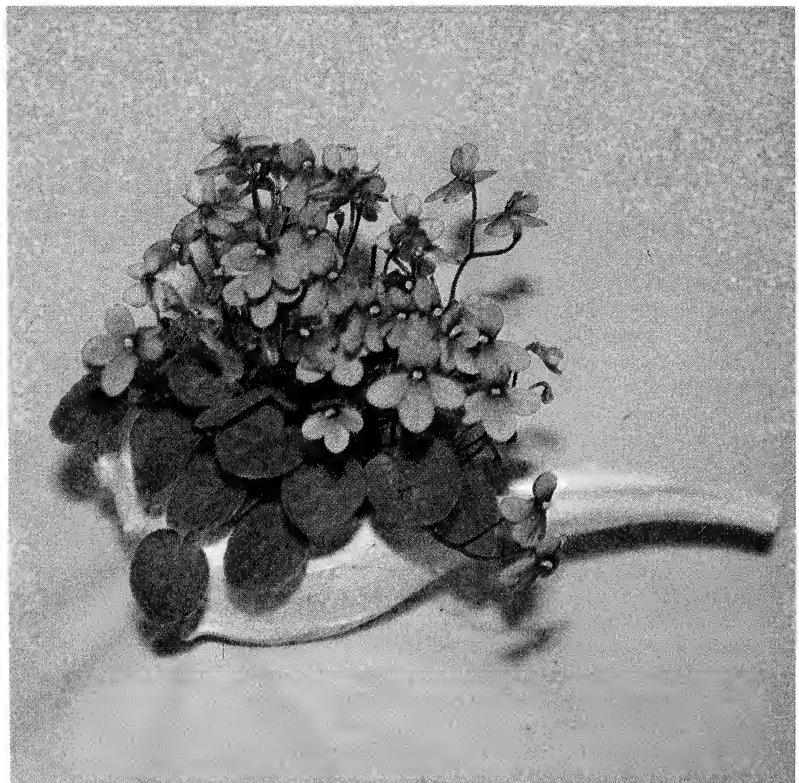
from all of AVSA

TINARI'S
Pink Cameo



**LYNDON
LYON'S**
Pixie Blue

grown by
Bev Promersberger



Inorganic Mix Components

*Part 5 of "Research Soil Mixes for African Violets"
presented to Yolo Violeteers of Northern California
Heather Gladney, B.S. Plant Science UCD*

Violets prefer a soil mix that is as light and porous as possible, that yet retains water and buffers nutrients well, and has a slightly acid pH, about 6.5-6.9. In previous sections we spoke in terms of measuring the qualities of the things we put in a soil mix: scientists measure the particle size, density, and porosity to learn the relative airiness of a mix. Violets like a moderate particle size, a low density, and a high porosity. They also like a high IEC, ion exchange capacity, which is often the task of organic soil materials to supply. Improving drainage and porosity is often the task of inorganic materials such as we discuss here. Last section, we discussed some experimental materials; here, we'll mention some inorganics that are often added for drainage or chemical reasons.

Eggshells seem organic. They are mainly lime, a slow-release source of calcium, much slower than limestone even when ground to a floury fineness. Some nitrogen may be supplied by the proteins in the shell lining. *Parakeet Gravel* is a mixture of charcoal and gravel. It should be used like sand, allowing for the effects of charcoal, and is probably too expensive to use on any large scale. *Chicken Grit* has the same properties as sand; its effects depending on its particle size. It may be convenient and inexpensive for some growers. *Charcoal* is widely suggested in recipes for soil mixes, but research librarians shrug about its properties. It has a neutral pH, but no data is available on its chemical effects. It is widely used for filtering and removing poisons, chemical pollutants, and gases in water treatment plants, hospitals, and aquariums. It filters out large organic molecules by means of tiny pores; but it apparently does not filter out small molecules like simple salts or nitrogen salts. Its main use seems to be in closed terrariums, to absorb any gases or compounds from rotting roots. Its IEC is unknown; also unknown, whether it buffers or re-releases the ions it absorbs.

Perlite

varied particle size by grade
6-8 pounds/cubic foot density—low

75% porosity—moderate to high

pH = 7.0 to 7.5, neutral
no IEC whatever; inert

Very dusty when dry; moisten while mixing to control dust, do not inhale it.

Perlite may also float to top of mix when watered.

Perlite is an alumino-silicate volcanic material heated to 1800° F which explodes it into closed, cellular structures. Water does not enter its interior pores; it does not crush easily; its main use is in improving drainage and allowing water entry into a mix. If a mix is more acid than pH = 5.0, perlite could cause a plant aluminum toxicity. When using perlite in a mix, a grower does not need any additional aluminum in a micronutrient solution or fritted trace element powder — one way in which altering a mix will alter fertilizer requirements.

Vermiculite

varied particle size by grade
5-7 pounds/cubic foot density—low
80% porosity—high
pH = 6.0 to 6.8 — slightly acid
high IEC, and good mineral buffering
equal to that of peat moss

Vermiculite is another heat-expanded volcanic material, an Al-Fe-Mg silicate. The mica plates are heated to 1400° F and exploded into spread accordian wafers. They will again collapse under too much pressure or too long a use in a potting soil. There are two types of vermiculite, only one is suitable for plants; the building grade has a pH over 8.0, far too alkaline, and should not be scavenged for use in a potting soil. Vermiculite contains large amounts of available potassium and magnesium; in analyzed mixes, 5-8% of the potassium and 9-12% of the magnesium came from the vermiculite in the mix. Mixes with vermiculite require less of these two minerals in added fertilizers. Vermiculite has the peculiarity of absorbing and fixing phosphate (PO_4^{3-}) so that half of the phosphate is unavailable; a fourth of it is held slowly available. Vermiculite

also absorbs ammonium in an unavailable form, but bacteria slowly convert it back into available forms later, thus buffering the supply of nitrogen to plants. It may help buffer a mix when nitrogen cycles are disrupted after heat sterilization, as well. Extra phosphate should be added when a mix containing vermiculite is fertilized. Vermiculite holds lots of water and should not be used so long its structure collapses into a soggy mass.

Sand

desirable particle size = .05 to 2 mm in dia.;
medium (.25-.5mm) and fine sand
(.05-.25mm) should be minimal compared
to coarser size particles.

This means: 100% of the sand will pass
a mesh of 40 wires per inch, and 40%
of the sand will pass a mesh
with 60 wires per inch.

100 pounds/cubic foot density—high
40% porosity—medium to low
no IEC; inert silica quartz
pH = 7.0, neutral

Sand drains well if it has the proper size range; it breaks water tension and lets water enter a peat mix, for instance, but does not retain water. Use a salt and lime-free sand: no cement mixes, no beach sand, no ground limestone. Builder's sand or playground sand is generally all right; avoid those that crust over with silt when rained on in bulk lots. If digging sand yourself, avoid surface contaminants such as old roots, pesticide residues, insect eggs, weed seeds; dig only subsurface sand. Exposure in bulk lots may contaminate a sand with fungi or nematodes; sterilizing an inert sand creates no problems with any nitrogen cycle. Sand is cheap but heavy; it supplies weight to a mix so that pots do not tip over easily, but postal meters and trucking fees run higher for those who ship sand mixes. Chicken grit and small aquarium gravels have the same properties as sand, though they had even more weight. Poor quality bagged potting mixes may try to cheat by using sands with too much silt in them as well as poor quality organic components; such mixes will not drain properly and will kill a violet.

Calcined Clay is used in building golf greens. Certain types of clay are fired at 1300° F to make bits which are porous, have a high IEC, and retain lots of water and nutrients though not possessing those nutrients itself. At 38 pounds/cubic foot density it is lighter than sand, but heavier than vermiculite or

perlite. Its particles are also very stable.

Scoria is a natural volcanic rock crushed and graded. It is very porous; at 30 pounds/cubic foot density, a moderate density, it looks like furnace slag.

Pumice has 30 pounds/cubic foot density and 65% porosity. A white natural glass formed of quick-cooling lava, it is physically fragile; it has some available sodium and potassium in it. It will buffer calcium, potassium, phosphorus, magnesium, and release them slowly to a plant's demands though it is itself low in these nutrients. Use it like perlite.

Plastics are sometimes seen in commercial mixes; they are of several types: *Polyurethane Foam Beads* are low density, high water capacity (70% of its volume) has a neutral pH and no IEC or nutrients to it. It does not decompose. It can be formulated in blocks like peat pellets for seedlings, or with nutrients mixed into it to be slowly released from the exterior of its particles. It will melt if heat-sterilized. *Polystyrene Flakes* are low density, neutral pH, do not decompose and do not retain water; they have no IEC and no nutrients. Flakes improve drainage and lighten the density of a mix. It can be used like sand, mixing one quarter by volume to three quarters volume of peat. Do not steam it or bake it. *Urea Formaldehyde* is low density, has a pH = 3.0—very acid; has a high water capacity (50-70% of its volume will hold water) and decomposes 15-20% annually. It is made into flake or block form by mixing air with a liquid resin and cooling it. Blocks are convenient to transport and store, and can easily be shredded with machines. Allow formaldehyde fumes from manufacture to dissipate before using, by letting the material sit. This material contains 30% N by weight, but only .25% is available at first. 5% of it becomes available by decomposition every year, which is so low it hardly affects the fertilizer needs of a violet. Urea formaldehyde can be used as 20-50% of a mix's volume in peat mixes.

Those growers interested in reading more can consult the following books in greater detail:

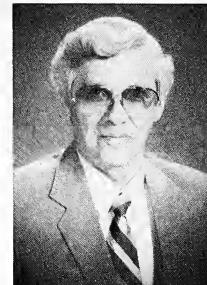
A. C. Bunt, *Modern Potting Composts*, Pennsylvania State University Press, University Park, PA, c. 1976, p. 36-42.

Hausenbuiller, *Soil Science*, Wm. Brown Publishers, Iowa, c. 1972, p. 243-294.

John Mastalerz, *The Greenhouse Environment*, John Wiley and Sons Inc., Santa Barbara, CA, c. 1977.

AVSA AFFILIATES

Bill Foster
Affiliate Chairman
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, TX 75150



HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Hopefully your plants are coming through the winter in fine condition and you are grooming them for the 1988 GRAND REUNION IN TEXAS. Since I have the distinguished honor of serving as Convention Chairman, I'd like to personally invite each of you to Dallas. Elsewhere, in this issue, you will find all the material you need to take care of your every Convention need. Don't wait! Send it in today.

We usually go through the process of making a lot of New Year resolutions that we try to stick to for a while, anyway. Paul & I have been off the nicotine for over a year now. We miss the "habit" occasionally, but we sure enjoy the money we have saved . . . well, we haven't actually saved it, but we didn't burn it up either. Let's get back to "resolutions" for a while. I have a couple of suggestions for you. These resolutions, if broken, may cause something bad to happen to you! Everyone should resolve to attend the 1988 AVSA Convention. Those of you that have, in the past, refused to enter design classes, should resolve to do at least one in 1988. Design classes are a required part of our AVSA shows and in order to have a complete show, someone has to fill these classes. I am a designer . . . not originally by choice, but rather by force! After having to do them, I developed a love for them. All you need is a little imagination and just enough talent to get something to hold together long enough for a show.

I read the schedules from all over the country and some of them have such interesting topics for their design classes . . . makes me wish I could be there to enter! I don't like to enter all classes, but if a particular topic "turns me on," I love to do them. I usually enter the arrangement classes, except for underwater — only if I have to. But I love underwater arrangements, terrariums, dish gardens, and now the natural gardens. I have been giving programs galore on natural gardens. If I can do this stuff and win Tri-Color in Design, anyone can!

Now, resolve to do a design in 1988 and if you don't carry through, your fingers may fall off!

I am going to be pretty busy the next few months, so please get your show requests to me as soon as possible. See you in Dallas.

Corrections & Omissions For September 1987 AVSA Judges List

Arkansas

Loewer, Mrs. D. H., 18 Galway, Wynne 72396
Colorado

s Griffith, Deborah S., 1557 S. Sheridan Blvd., Lakewood 80226
Florida

Gill, Dorothea L., 2037 Sandra Dr., Clearwater 34624
Mississippi

Wicht, Miss Jane, 203 Broad St., Hattiesburg 39401
Missouri

* Wilson, Mrs. Roma, 4037 Cleveland, St. Louis 63110
Montana

s Minker, Mrs. Alice, 324 3rd Ave. W, Roundup 59072
Nichols, Kay, 324 3rd Ave. W, Roundup 59072
New Jersey

Sendic, Rita, 2524 Berdan Ave., Fairlawn 07410
Senna, Frank, 13 Harvard Way, Oakland 07436
New York

* Dooley, Mrs. Raymond, 33 Collfield Ave., Staten Island 10302
Canada

s Decelles, Therese, 298 DeJumonville, Boucherville J4B 1J9
Goretsky, Winston, 3308 Barr Road N.W., Calgary, Alberta
T2L 1M8

Cookbooks For Sale!

The 1988 AVSA Convention will be held in Dallas, Texas. To raise money the violet growers in Texas compiled a cookbook, "Texas Violeteer's Kitchen Capers."

The book contains over 300 recipes. You may obtain a copy by sending \$7.25 for each book to:

Paula Foster
3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150
This price includes postage.

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PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS: Plants - \$3.35 each or as listed. Plus handling charge of 25 cents per plant, and shipping charge of \$3.50 per order. Shipping charge for ALASKA, HAWAII and PUERTO RICO is \$5.50. All shipments are made via UPS second day air.

Our 1988 Variety List is mostly all new varieties; included are the outstanding new hybrids from our CANADIAN neighbors. These cultivars are outstanding, exceptional colors, symmetrical growing foliage, and spectacular show plants. \$1.00 brings you the complete list and a coupon worth \$1.50 toward your first order. Customers of record receive the list at no charge.

CHIMERA — sometimes known as pinwheels or radials

8-511	KIWI GLORY (DS) deep purple pansy, sharply defined white center stripe	\$25
8-508 +	OVATION (DC) big ruffled pink stars deep pink center stripe ruched rosette foliage	\$35

STANDARD and SHOW PLANT VARIETIES

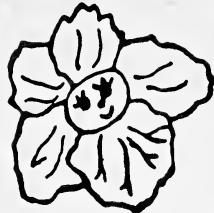
8-228 *	ANGELICA (IF) long lasting blooms, pink to raspberry shades, plain foliage
8-490 +	AVVENTURE (DC) huge dbl brilliant pink, 12+ to the cluster, dark plain foliage show plant
8-476 +	BOUQUET CORAIL (MT) dbl vibrant coral, many to the cluster, plain foliage show plant
8-507 +*	COMETE BLEU (MT) dbl lite blue many to the cluster, plain foliage, interesting variegation pattern
8-488 +	DESIR (DC) fringed dbl pansy light blue, extremely floriferous, plain foliage
8-500	FONTENELLE (KS) dbl deep lavender rimmed with violet and ruffled white edge, very floriferous
8-530 *	GEORGENE (IF) large ruffled red stars, nicely ruffled foliage, well behaved
8-501	ICE FANTASY (KS) dbl large white stars spattered with light blue, outstanding show plant, best new 1987
8-521 *	JUST SUPER (EC) large ruffled full dbl royal purple, ruffled tan variegated foliage
8-516 +	L'AMBASSADEUR (DC) big medium blue dbl with excellent Geneva edge, show plant, best in TORONTO show
8-520 *	PAINTED LADY (EC) dbl fantasy multicolor patches of white and of purple on pink very vigorous show plant
8-522 *	ONYX (EC) large ruffled dbl lite pink tawny pink variegated foliage
8-537 +*	PICASSO T (MT) lite blue dbl, deep blue splotches, show foliage, heavily variegated
8-532 *	PRETTY IN BLUE (IF) huge stars shading from lite to medium blue, pink variegation - super
8-533 *	PRETTY IN PINK (IF) s/d ruffled peachy pink with coppery shades, very floriferous, charming
8-489 +	ROBERT CROTEAU (DC) strikingly different, fringed dbl lilac darker edge with pale pink splotches, plain foliage
8-523 *	SMOKE RINGS (EC) ruffled dbl medium blue, lighter center, real pansy face, ruffled foliage

MINIATURES and SEMIMINIATURES

8-526 *	FROSTY TRINKET (EC) dbl blue and white, free flowering, plain variegated foliage
8-505 +	HERITAGE FROLIC (AEA) dbl deep rose, white fringed edge, dark green slightly wavy foliage multitude of blooms
8-499 +	LITTLE LADY (PT) dbl pink blooms cover dark green symmetrical foliage, one of Pat's best
8-518	MY DOLL (HP) many s/dbl blooms cover this small growing mini, perfect symmetrical foliage
8-527 *	TUFFY TRINKET (EC) large cupped dbl lavender with darker edges, plain fol, lite variegation
8-498 +*	WUNNERFUL (AEA) s/dbl deep lavender tutone, deeper eye, plain pointed foliage, mini

+ denotes CANADIAN variety * denotes variegated foliage varieties

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OUR OWN 1988 INTRODUCTIONS

PEARL BATIK - Pearly-pink, crinkly double blossoms are overlayed in areas with velvety lavender-pink and then streaked in varying shades of rose-violet. Soft, dark, pink and green variegated foliage.

KANSAS CITY TRAILS - A standard trailer. Medium pink doubles are heavily infused with raspberry glitter. A very profuse bloomer and easy to grow. Serrated, shiny, medium green foliage.

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OZARK GAL - Light lavender pansies with deep purple markings on lower petals. Tailored, dark green foliage. Large Grower.

SPICY MAMA - Lovely pink blossoms with purple fantasy markings. Deep green, symmetrical, tailored foliage.

GLAMOUR QUEEN - Bouquets of dark blue, frilly blossoms. Upper petals have a wonderful white webbing throughout. Dark, slightly ruffled foliage. (This plant likes strong light.)

1988 INTRODUCTIONS FROM RALPH ROBINSON

ROB'S ALMOST SINFUL - Double ruffled pink blossoms have heavily spattered ruby edges and some spattering on face. Dark, serrated, red-backed TL variegated foliage. small semimini.

ROB'S CLOWN AROUND - Ruffled fantasy purple doubles with slight green edging. Pointed, slightly wavy "Tommie Lou" variegated foliage. mini.

ROB'S DAYDREAMS - White doubles with a blush of pink and frilly green edges. Pointed, medium green foliage with "Tommie Lou" variegation. mini.

ROB'S FOOLISHNESS - Huge double medium pink fluffy stars. Serrated foliage with "Champion" variegation. small semimini.

ROB'S NEVER NAUGHTY - Very frilled double stars of medium to deep blue. Green and white "Champion" foliage. semimini.

ROB'S SHADOW MAGIC - Semi-dbl to double medium to dark purple blossoms on heavily variegated white "Champion" foliage. semi-mini.

ROB'S TEMPTRESS - Heavily frilled doubles of deep-deep fuchsia-red. Heavily serrated variegated foliage. semimini.

ROB'S WICKED FICKLE - Large double white stars with blue eye and edging. Medium green foliage with light "Tommie Lou" variegation. semimini.

WE ALSO HAVE ALL 1988 INTRODUCTIONS FROM IRENE FREDETTE

PLANTS \$2.75 each

Please add \$3.50 per order for shipping

We ship established plants





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FAVORITE HYBRIDS from the following hybridizers:

Boone • Bryant • Fredette • Granger • Lyon
Pittman • Ness • Nortex Haven • Jeannette's • Wrangler's
Many others too numerous to mention.

All orders received by **MARCH 1 TAKE 15% DISCOUNT**
Starter Plants - \$3.00; Leaves - \$1.25 Priority Shipping - \$4.00
Send 50¢ for list. Shipping will begin approximately April 15,
weather permitting - southern states, earlier.

NO NEED FOR WICKS!

Attractive, decorative **self-wicking** ceramic violet pots have porous insert which allows water and liquid fertilizer to be absorbed evenly to plant roots. Reservoir holds enough water to last 5 to 7 days.

MANY colors to choose from — Three styles: Round, Ruffled or Flared Top * Prices include shipping*
Color chart available on request (one shipped with order, also)

Basic colors: White, Pink, Mauve, Orchid, Lavender, Purple, Blue and Purple multi-color.

White pots with Violets on them — \$1.00 extra.

ROUND	Sizes	Price	RUFFLED	Sizes	Price	FLUTED	Sizes	Price
	S. Min. 2 3/4"	9.00		Mini 2 1/4"	7.00		Standard 3 3/4"	11.00
	Standard 3 1/2"	11.00		Semimini 2 3/4"	8.00		Large 3 3/4"	15.00
	Large 4"	13.00		Standard 4"	10.00		(Large has larger fluted top and deeper than Standard)	

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NOW . . . INTRODUCING Our 6-Tray STAND (2 trays per level)!! Due to numerous requests we are now offering a 6-tray — great for limited spaces . . . it's compact, measures only 70" high x 29" wide x 25" deep. Great to use for violets or other plants!!! Remember it's rustproof so it can be used inside or outside. Wouldn't you like to organize and centralize your plants in one location? Order yours today! **\$79.00** (PS-0030-6)

**DON'T PAY THE HIGH PRICES THAT OTHERS CHARGE!!
OUR PRICES ARE VERY REASONABLE!**

Model #	Without Fixtures	Stand + 3 Light Fixtures (One Per Level)	Stand + 6 Light Fixtures (Two Per Level)	
PS-0030-6	\$79.00			
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PLASTIC TRAYS \$4.00 EA. Volkmann Type (23" long x 12" wide x 2 1/2" deep)

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20 Leaves (my choice '87 releases)	\$ 9.50
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40 Variegated Leaves (my choice)	\$17.00

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Overseas Shipping



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From Fredette Originals:

DOLL FESTIVAL - many ruffled shell pink to rosy doubles over glossy, dark pebbled foliage.

DUTCH TREAT - large ruffled purple semi-doubles over glossy, wavy lime green foliage.

GEORGENE - large ruffled red stars over nicely ruffled variegated foliage.

GRAPE SODA - enormous vivid purple semi doubles, usually with a greenish edge, dark foliage.

HANKY PANKY - bouquet of pink and violet fantasy doubles, shapely dark tailored foliage.

JACEY - long lasting, non-dropping red singles, tailored variegated foliage.

PRETTY IN BLUE - very large stars shading from light to medium blue, nice variegated foliage.

PRETTY IN PINK - ruffled peachy-pink semi doubles with coppery shading, tailored variegated foliage.

From Ruby Cox:

GLAMOUR QUEEN - lavender and white frilled pansy shaped bloom on dark glossy foliage.

OZARK GAL - lavender pansy shaped bloom with darker streaks and veining on medium green elongated foliage.

SPICY MAMA - pink with purple fantasy star shaped blossoms on dark tailored foliage.

Order from this ad or send 50 cents for our new Spring Catalog for a complete listing of new varieties from Fredette, Cox, Champion, Hortense, Rainbow's and many others, plus over 20 Chimeras. We also have Kent Stork's "Ice Fantasy" best new introduction at the 1987 AVSA Convention.

Prices: starter plants: \$2.75 plus \$4 postage per order - leaves: \$1 plus \$3 postage per order.

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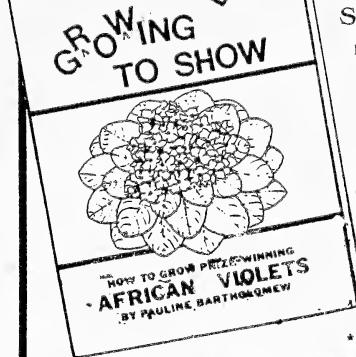
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LEAF SUPPORT RINGS (rubber band included) 6" size: 85¢ each, \$9.75 per dozen, \$17.50 per 25. 9" size:
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3" Tub (rolled edge) \$1.29 per dozen; \$7.59 per 100.

3 1/2" Tub (rolled edge) \$1.79 per dozen; \$10.89 per 100.

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4 1/2" Tub \$1.99 per dozen; \$11.22 per 100.

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5 x 20 x 2 1/8" white \$6.39; 12 x 18 x 2 3/8" avocado \$4.39;

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◊ AMETHYST - reddish lavender single, edge	◊ DIAMOND - white with blue center
◊ Sapphire - blue single, heavy bloomer	◊ Ruby - red, darker edge
◊ APATITE - light purple	◊ ROSE QUARTZ - pink double, Outstanding!
◊ ROSE QUARTZ - pink double, Outstanding!	◊ OPAL - light blue single

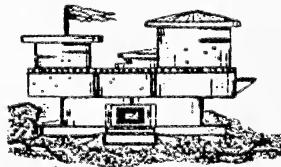
PLANTS: \$3.50 each plus \$2.00 for postage and handling.

Minimum order: 3 plants

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"For the violets of your fantasies!"

Now that we have finally settled into our permanent facilities we are out to prove to you our improved services with this special one time offer.

5 FREE PLANTS (\$25 min. purchase - expires 2-15-88)

- * Over 2500 varieties of African Violets (minis, trailers, chimeras, standards - old and new), episcias, and streptocarpus. \$1.00 for list.
- * We have Wasp(!) varieties.
- * Distributor for Fredette's Originals and Wasmund's Rainbows.

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Inch		Number of Pots					
Size	Color	Type	10	20	50	100	500
2	White	RS	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/4	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	1.15	1.80	4.00	6.50	29.00
3	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.35	2.30	5.00	9.00	42.50
3 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT,SQ	1.55	2.70	6.30	11.00	50.00
4	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.85	3.20	7.20	13.50	60.00
4 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	2.30	4.00	8.50	16.00	76.00
5	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	2.65	4.90	11.00	19.50	88.00
6	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	3.25	5.65	13.00	25.00	119.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT	3.80	6.40	14.75	27.50	127.50
7	Wh or Gr	RS	6.30	11.75	27.50	49.50	235.00
8	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	6.80	12.75	29.00	55.00	250.00

(COLORS: Wh=White, Gr=Green)

(TYPE: RS=Round Standard, height & width are same.

RT=Round Tub, height is 3/4 of width.

SQ=Square, volume about the same as RS.)

PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow, about half as deep as they are across the top,
bottom holes only.

(Recommended in AVSM articles and convention presentations)

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	500
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.00	22.50	97.50
6	Wh or Gr	3.65	6.70	15.50	29.50	132.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	163.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	240.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	400.00

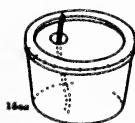
PLASTIC SAUCERS

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50
3	White	1.60	2.85	6.25
4	White	2.10	3.95	8.50
5	White	2.40	4.25	9.50

PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS

Volume	Height	20	50	100	500
8 oz.	1 3/4"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
16 oz.	3"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
32 oz.	3"	10.00	22.00	42.00	135.00

(wicks are not included)



Plastic Marking Labels

3" (100) \$1.25
4" (100) \$1.75

Granny's Bloomers (Liquid) Jungle Juice (Liquid)

Each — 2 oz. \$1.50
6 oz. \$2.50

OTHER ITEMS

Our free catalogue lists and describes several other items such as: Oyama (Texas style) Pots, Moistrites, leaf supports, pens, masks, gloves, meters, hanging baskets of all sizes, soil enriching materials, trays, books, and insecticides. The prices are low for your convenience. Your request for free catalogue will be answered by return mail.

**PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
WITHOUT NOTICE**

SEEDS

AFRICAN VIOLET SEEDS, KITS & STARTER GREENHOUSES

Ronn & Katsuko Nadeau of Nadeau Seed Company have authorized us to sell their products.

African Violet Seeds - a packet contains 100 seeds and illustrated instructions for the following:

#1 = Rainbow Wonders	mixed colors, standard;
#2 = Little Gems	mixed colors, miniatures;
#3 = Autumn Fancies	variegated foliage;
#4 = Trailintrigue	mixed colors, trailers.

Each Packet \$4.50

African Violet Seed Kit contains a packet of your choice: #1, #2, #3 or #4; plus 2 Jiffy-7 pellets, 1 growing container, and illustrated instructions. Each Kit \$5.20

Starter Greenhouse - includes 1 plastic tray, 1 divider of 72 cavities & 1 transparent dome. Each Set \$4.25

Book by Ronn Nadeau, HOW TO GROW AFRICAN VIOLETS

24 pages with 42 color photos \$2.95

Nadeau Soilless Mix - 2 gallons \$2.80

Potting Materials

*Please Note:

Due to the bulkiness of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we are able to ship only eight (8) gallons of any one or combination of these three items with each order.

*Violet House potting soil	1 gal.	\$1.40
*Perlite	1 gal.	1.40
*Vermiculite	1 gal.	1.40
Canadian Peat Moss (milled)	2 gal.	2.50
Dolomite limestone	1 lb.	1.30
Charcoal	12 oz.	1.40
Sphagnum Moss-long fiber	1/4 cu. ft.	2.75
Fish Emulsion - liquid	10 oz.	1.75
Leaf Shine & Cleaner (pump sprayer)	8 fl. oz.	1.50
House Plant Insect Spray (pump)	10 fl. oz.	1.50

PETER'S AFRICAN VIOLET FERTILIZERS

African Violet Special (12-36-14) 12 oz. \$2.75

Variegated Special (5-50-17) 12 oz. 3.00

General Purpose (20-20-20) 16 oz. 2.50

CAPILLARY MAT (Vatex)

Water plants by means of capillary action. Dark plastic sheet, with tiny holes, lies on top of matting; pots are placed directly on plastic. Dark plastic minimizes growth of algae.

Each square foot \$.35

4 ft. wide, in any length, (4' x 1' = 4 sq. ft.) \$1.40

Minimum Order \$7.50 plus shipping

Florida customers must add 5% sales tax

Shipping Charges

48 States \$3.00

Hawaii and Alaska 5.50

All other areas charged actual cost

U.P.S. charges for C.O.D. orders 2.00

SEND FOR OUR FREE CATALOG!

Send Orders To:

The Violet House

P. O. Box 1274

Gainesville, Florida 32601

Phone (904) 377-8465



P.O. Box 1052
Midland, MI 48641-1052

LEAVES:
\$1 ea, min. 12, plus
\$2.75 postage

PLANTS:
\$3 ea, min. 5, plus
\$4.50 postage
Combination orders:
\$4.50 postage

1988 FREDETTE'S (distributor)

ANGELICA - pink to raspberry with touch of coral, var. fol.
DOLL FESTIVAL - ruf. shell pink to rosy d, glossy dark fol.
DUTCH TREAT - big ruf. purple sd, glossy, wavy lime green fol.
EASTER JOY - many ruf white d, some rose & green. Heavy bloomer.
GEORGIA - big ruf. red star, ruf var, fol. which shapes well.
GRAPE SODA - huge vivid purple sd, some greenish edge, dark fol.
JACEY - long-lasting, red sticktites on tal. var. fol.
KLONDIKE - many very large white sd, symm. fol.
LOVELY LINDA - full rosy d, nice var. fol.
LUCKY DUCK - white and orchid sd. Good bloomer.
NIANTIC - pretty rose sd.
ORCHID LILY - big sd in warm shade of orchid, large symm tal. fol.
PARTY LINE - big, long stemmed white sd outlined in blue.
PRETTY IN BLUE - big light to medium blue stars, pink var. fol.
PRETTY IN PINK - ruf. peach-pink sd, coppery shading, tal. var. fol.
PRETTY IN RED - big glowing red stars contrast with tal. var. fol.
PRINCESS MOONBEAM - big, silvery, lavender-blue stars, dark fol.
RICOCHET - red stars with pink tips cluster on dark tal. fol.
ROSY IMAGE - red centered pink sds cluster on dark tal. fol.
SUNBIRD - red blooms shading to mauve edges amass on tal. fol.
TWIN PRETTY - ruf. deep rose, often some white. Good bloomer.
WOOD ROSE - strong stemmed rose & magenta d, slightly wavy fol.

LITTLE ONES FROM PITTMAN:

Little Pro, Snow Child, Honey Jay, Cande, Lavender Magic, My Doll, Muffet, Wee Be, Playful Pet, Ruffled Joy.

MARIE BURNS:

all have very dark tailored foliage & grow large.
MAJESTIC - vibrant med. blue d star. Queen of AVSA Orlando show.
MAGIC - deep blue ruffled d.
MAGNOLIA - shaded light pink d., pointed, spooned fol.
MAIDEN - fringed shaded pink d.
MARVEL - double stars of light pink.

SUNCOAST SERIES:

ANGEL MAGIC - white sd pansy with hints of sky blue. Early bloomer.
ANTIQUE LACE - ruf white sd edged in green & lavender. Lg grower.
CHRISTMAS SPARKLER - big d red star, white edged on deep green var. fol.
GARDEN PARTY - big candy pink star, ruf green edge, wavy var. fol.
MELON DELIGHT - bright coral d on bold dark green symm fol.
RUBY ROSE - big ruby red dbls cluster on pink var. fol. Nice.
SILVERCREST - big fluted white & purple sd on var. fol.
WEDGEWOOD - clusters of icy blue dbls, round showy fol.

FROM KENT STORK: Ice Fantasy, Fontenelle, Omaha, Mandolin, Pretty Mama, Umbrella Days, and **GORDON BOONE'S:** Silent Majesty, Vampire's Kiss.

CHIMERAS: no minimum.

MITZI SPORT - wavy pink sticktite, blue mid stripe,	
small grower	\$20.00
PETTICOAT LANE - white pansy, coral with lavender	
fantasy side stripe	\$15.00
KILAUEA - white s, lav with blue fantasy side stripe	\$15.00
ROULETTE - pink pansy, purple center stripe, dark tal. fol.	\$15.00
SNOWY EGRET SPORT - cute mini trailer with	
rosy red & white stripes	\$10.00
NEVADA SPORT - showy white with red side stripe,	
med. green fol.	\$15.00
BLUE FROST - med blue sd star, light blue center stripes ..	\$12.00
LOVE FANCY - white sd, pink w/blue fantasy center stripe ..	\$15.00
MARION STAR SPORT - blush pink sticktite, rosy side	
stripe, elongated fol.	\$20.00

FULL LIST INCLUDING SUPPLIES - 50¢
(Foreign - \$1.00)

State Inspected

517-835-9225

Joan's Violets For All Seasons

101 East Ave. 2, Copperas Cove, TX 76522

817-547-1520

WRANGLER'S ARE OUR SPECIALTY

Send \$1 for our 1988 Spring Shipping List
Visitors welcome, please phone ahead.

ROBERTS' GESNERIADS

Limited Quantities of a large collection
of unique and unusual
Micro, Miniature & Compact Sinnings
All Crown Propagated for Authenticity
- no Seed Propagation

Order Early for Best Selection

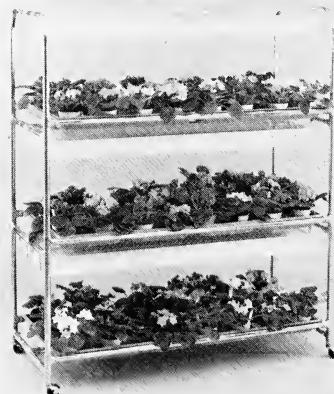
ROBERTS' GESNERIADS 5656 Calyn Road
Barbara Roberts Baltimore, MD 21228
catalog \$1.50 Sorry, no visitors, no phone orders

RESERVOIR WICK POT™

"It Waters and Feeds at the Same Time"®

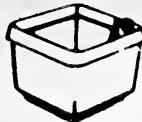


CONSTANT FEED®
FERTILIZER



CHOOSE FROM SEVEN
MODELS OF PLANT STANDS.
SEND FOR FREE COLOR CATALOG ON
AFRICAN VIOLETS AND SUPPLIES.

VOLKMANN BROS. GREENHOUSES
2714 Minert St./Dallas, Texas 75219



The House of Violets



Charlyne and Ralph Reed

936-940 Garland St., SW - Dept 188

Camden, Arkansas 71701

"MOIST-RITE" PLANTER (Check color desired)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone (501) 836-3016

Green White Black

Single planter \$ 3.95 ppd.

Carton of 6 18.50 ppd.

Carton of 12 32.95 ppd.

Carton of 24 55.00 ppd.

Prices subject to change without notice.

HORTENSE'S AFRICAN VIOLETS

12406 Alexandria St.

San Antonio, TX 78233

512-656-0128

HOME OF HORTENSE'S HONEYS

NEW FOR 1988

16 NEW STANDARDS — 12 MINIS & SEMIMINIS

All are heavy bloomers with regular and variegated foliage. Send 25¢ for descriptive list of these and many previous releases. Ready for shipping. **USA only**

Violet Express



"Superior violets expressly for you!"

* A TEMPTING SAMPLE OF NEW RELEASES THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SPRING SHIPPING *

- ° GYPSY SMOKE (Champion) - Large wine doubles with darker edges. Very heavy bloomer, grows fast, excellent for show. Variegated foliage in sharp contrasts of light, medium and dark green. Tailored.
- ° ONYX (Champion) - Ruffled light pink double blooms are large and lovely over medium green foliage with tawny pink variegation.
- ° PAINTED LADY (Champion) - Double fantasy multicolor with patches of white and purple markings on pink. Large & lightly ruffled many-count blooms above round foliage with medium green & yellow variegation.
- ° GRAPE SODA (Fredette) - Enormous vivid purple semidoubles, usually with a greenish-white edge. Constant, abundant bloom over dark tailored foliage.
- ° HANKY PANKY (Fredette) - Bouquets of pink and violet fantasy doubles. Dark tailored foliage naturally shapes very well.
- ° JACEY (Fredette) - Long lasting, non-dropping lovely red singles with variegated foliage. Delightful!
- ° BIG RIG (Domiano) [Fall, '87] - Multicolor pink single with a fuchsia overlay. Medium green tailored foliage. Grows large. WOW!!!
- ° MODERNO (Domiano) [Fall, '87] - Purple semidouble star with a red-purple eye, blue-purple edge & glitter. Medium green tailored foliage. Hardy.
- ° SKETCH BOOK (Domiano) [Fall, '87] - Two-tone bright pink ruffled double on beautiful medium green tailored foliage. Grows large, picture perfect.
- ° RAINBOW'S BELLS OF IRELAND (Wasmund) - White stars with wide green edges in stiltite bells. Blooms in great profusion that last and last over symmetrical light green tailored foliage.
- ° RAINBOW'S FUGI GOLD (Wasmund) - Large white semidoubles touched with lavender and purple fantasy. No two blooms alike. Medium green and gold crown-variegated foliage.
- ° RAINBOW'S RASPBERRY FRENZY (Wasmund) - Semidouble open ruffled pink pansies with a wide neon raspberry edge and some raspberry sprinkles. Tommie Lou foliage in medium & light green with pink & white. Compact standard.
- ° MAUVE MEMORIES (Pittman) - Velvet burgundy double blooms in bouquets over stunning dark green tailored foliage.
- ° ALAMO PRINCE (Pittman) Semimini - Double deep purple blossoms in profusion over shiny medium green foliage.
- ° BLUE BEACON (Pittman) - Medium blue large double blooms in abundance above symmetrical dark green tailored leaves.

MANY OTHER NEW & RECENT RELEASES FROM THESE HYBRIDIZERS AND

* BOONE * c/o COOKIE * GRANGER * KENT'S * LYON/SORANO * SANDRA WILLIAMS * SMITH'S WRANGLER'S * SWIFT * and OTHERS *

Send for a 1988 catalog with descriptions of over 300 outstanding varieties, \$1.00, refundable with order. Ready about February 15th.

Shipping of starter plants and fresh cut leaves will begin about May 1 from my new and expanded growing facilities.

GENOLA B. COX

1441 Everett Road, Eagle River, WI 54521 (715) 479-8663

Visit my "growing family" in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin.

(Please Call First) Closed Sundays and Mondays



NEW VARIETIES FOR 1988!!

HORTENSE

12 minis and semiminis — Winners every one!

HOBBS (Authorized distributor)

7 standards with perfect symmetry. These are real beauties!

FREDETTE (Authorized distributor)

21 standards - 13 of these are naturally symmetrical and have the potential of a beautiful show plant without special effort.

Also beauties will be available from Kent, Boone, Lyon, Granger and Wrangler. We will still feature some of the older favorites by these hybridizers and the best of Maas and Utz.

Our new descriptive list is available Feb. 1 - 50¢
Leaves only - labeled

OUR CHOICE new & previous releases

24	\$14.00
50	\$25.00

Add \$3 shipping & handling. Texans add 6% tax. We ship priority mail in the South, weather permitting, year 'round & April to the first of November in the North. Please make check payable to: **Shirley Sanders, 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio, TX 78221 (512) 923-1093**

AFRICAN VIOLET LOVERS DO IT WITH SUCKERS!

Bumper Sticker - \$2.95 ppd

VIDEO INN, 211 E. Olive Ave., #200, Burbank, CA 91502



AFRICAN VIOLET LEAF SUPPORTS 5 SIZES

6" fits up to 3" pot
9" & 12" fits up to 5" pot
15" & 18" fits up to 8" pot

made of leaf-green plastic, fit any type of pots
send stamped, addressed, long envelope for
price list and current shipping charges

J F INDUSTRIES

ROUTE 4 BOX 309-1
PRYOR, OK 74361
1-918-434-6768

NEWS FROM



We received the following letter from Andy Anderson last October. Since Andy was a friend to many of you, with his consent, we are pleased to share it with you.

Dear John & Marilyn,

It is hard to believe that the GREEN HOUSE in Bellflower closed six years ago — that Carol Green Anderson, founder, passed on three years ago.

I am grateful that you are continuing the tradition of THE GREEN HOUSE, in supplying the superior GRO-CART that Carol and I worked so hard to establish.

I would have been unable to continue this tradition very long, since I had colon surgery last spring. (While I was in the hospital, the food carts reminded me of some other plant light stands).

I am using one of my stands, growing indoor plants successfully in this desert environment for the last five years.

The GRO-CART has always provided the optimum conditions for growing plants, sunlight or no sunlight. Not only that, it is a beautiful addition to any home or office.

Andy

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM ANDY, MARILYN & JOHN
Send for our FREE color brochure.



Dept. A1, 1432 W. Kerrick St., Lancaster, CA 93534 (805) 948-1959

PLANT COLLECTIBLES

103 KENVIEW AVE., DEPT. AV, BUFFALO, NY 14217
Top Quality Supplies - Low Prices - Fast Service - Catalog features
100's of products for your Violet needs . . . Pots (all sizes), hanging
baskets, plastic markers, soils, vermiculite, perlite, marking pens,
fertilizers, soil conditioners, pest controls, flats & inserts, electric
heating coils, indoor watering hoses & a complete selection of plant
books along with much, much more . . . ! CATALOG - 2 stamps
FREE PLANT OFFER WITH PURCHASE FROM CATALOG.

LEONA'S VIOLETS

2703 Tether Tr, Austin, TX 78704
1987 releases by Fredette, Sisk,
Hortense, Lyon and others.
SEND 50¢ FOR LARGE LIST

African Violets from *Rocky Knoll Greenhouse*

ROUTE 2, BOX 306A, WAYNESBORO, VA 22980
Phone (703) 943-9772

Selections from leading hybridizers
Leaves - \$9.00/Doz. (My choice)
12.00/Doz. (Your choice)
Starter Plants - \$2.75 each
List - \$1.00 (refundable)
Minimum order - \$15.00
Shipping/Handling - \$3 min., 15%
Virginia residents add 4.5% Sales Tax
UPS 2nd day air, add \$3.00
Shipments USA only

The top advertisement is for "Schultz-Instant LIQUID PLANT FOOD". It features three bottles: a small bottle labeled "7 DROPS PER QT", a medium bottle, and a large jug. The text includes "ULTRA PURE CONCENTRATED ALL PURPOSE" and "EASY DIRECTIONS: 7 drops per quart water. Every time you water, Every thing you grow." It also mentions availability at stores or via mail, with prices for 5 1/2 oz., 12 oz., and 28 oz. The bottom advertisement is for "Schultz-Instant Fertilizer". It shows a jar and a bag. The text includes "ULTRA PURE CONCENTRATED ALL PURPOSE SOLUBLE" and "EASY DIRECTIONS: 1/4 teasp. per gal. water. Every time you water, Every thing you grow." It also mentions availability at stores or via mail, with a price of \$3.20 for 1 lb. and \$12.50 for 5 lb. Both ads mention "© 1983 A. Y. Schultz. By the makers of 'Plant Shine'. Mfg. by SCHULTZ CO., St. Louis, MO 63043 U.S.A."



3900 CARTER CREEK PKWY.
BRYAN, TX 77802
409-846-8970

"SPECIALIZING IN TEXAS HYBRIDIZED PLANTS"

WE ARE PROUD TO INTRODUCE OUR OWN NEW HYBRIDS, PICOTEE PETTICOAT, ASTRALITE, RUTHIE GEE & JANICE ANN, PLUS A SAMPLING OF OTHER NEW VARIETIES FROM LEADING HYBRIDIZERS. PLANTS AND LEAVES AVAILABLE

NEW 1988 LIST OF OVER 200 VARIETIES AVAILABLE FOR \$1.00

G. BOONE - PURPLETTA, MINDI BROOKE, VAMPIRE'S KISS, CRUSHED VELVET (SM)
B. BRYANT - CASPER GHOST, MINT JULEP, DALLAS DOOZIE, TEXAS BLUE MOON
B. FOSTER - BERTHA, SYBIL, MISCHEVIOUS MYRTLE, MISCHEVIOUS MAC
I. FREDETTE - DOLL FESTIVAL, HANKY PANKY, PARTY LINE, GRAPE SODA & MORE
B. JOHNSON - RASPBERRY REUNION, TANGERINE, SNOWFRILL, SNOWKIST
R. SCOTT - ANGEL FROST, MIGNON'S MOMENT, MISTY LADY, WARLOCK
S. WILLIAMS - ANTIQUE LACE, STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL, SUGAR MINT & MORE
WRANGLER'S - BUCKAROO BLUES, MASKED OUTLAW, SPANISH CAVALIER & MORE
OTHERS BY GRANGER, HORTENSE, LYON, SUSAN, SWIFT. ALSO MINIS, TRAILERS & SOME OLDER CLASSICS.

"RAINBOW ASSORTMENT" - ONE FULL DOZEN PLANTS OF OUR CHOICE, \$24. PPD. BUY 100 PLANTS AT OUR WHOLESALE PRICE, \$1.30 EACH, OUR CHOICE, ASST. ORDER 50, OUR CHOICE, \$1.50. PURCHASER PAYS POSTAGE ON WHOLESALE.

SUPPLIES SHIPPED ANY TIME - 4 QTS. SHOW PLANT SOIL - \$2.50; FISH EMULSION STICKS - WONDERFUL, NO ODOR - 45 FOR \$2.00; 1 QT. KNOX-OUT FOR MITES - \$24.95, PPD.

"QUALITY PLANTS AT REASONABLE PRICES"

JEANNETTE'S JESNERIADS

2173 Leslie Street, Terrytown/Gretna LA 70056

Jeannette Domiano, Hybridizer

504-393-6977

The following NEW varieties may be purchased only from us (the hybridizer) this spring:

NEW AFRICAN VIOLET VARIETIES FOR SPRING 1988

(All are standard size with glossy green show foliage)

ALL THAT JAZZ - Semidouble pink star, white edge, purple glitter overlay. AUBERGINE - Pansy shaped mauve double with black tipping. Grows large. DESIGNER GENES - Slightly ruffled semidouble very dark two-tone purplish blue, darkest at petal edges. DOUBLE FEATURE - Double multicolor orchid star. FRENCH COUNTRY - Double ruffled medium blue two-tone with random color variations. JUST DESSERTS - Two-tone pink double star. Grows large. KISS OF FIRE - Semidouble ruffled reddish-purple two-tone with white edge. LAMOUR DU JOUR - Semidouble orchid multicolor w/some lavender and some purple tips. Grows large. LOVELIGHT - Semidouble light blue star overlaid with medium blue rays. MY WICKED WAYS - Semidouble two-tone orchid star with purple tips. Grows large. OTHER DELIGHTS - Semidouble orchid two-tone w/darker eye and edge. PASSION'S PROMISE - Two-tone fuchsia double w/various patterning. SLEEPER - Semidouble pansy shaped medium pink center edged in deep pink. STARCROSSED - Large semidouble lavender two-tone star, darker toward edges. YOUNG MAN'S FANCY - Double light blue with a darker blue edge.

Also some gesneriads, mostly fibrous rooted. To order from this ad, send \$3.75 per plant, shipping included.

Minimum order: 5 plants. Or send 50¢ for complete descriptive list. Shipping April 1 to November 1.

Mary E. Gall
913-642-4357
List \$1.00

MARY'S VIOLET



JOY

3200 W. 82nd Terrace,
Leawood, Kansas 66206

SPECIALIZING IN MINIS, STANDARDS, AND TRAILERS OF PROVEN SHOW QUALITY EXCITING 1988 STANDARD VARIETIES

BETTY BRYANT

RUBY COX

IRENE FREDETTE

NEAT NEW 1988 MINIS AND SEMIMINIS

HORTENSE PITTMAN

RALPH ROBINSON

Recent Introductions of MARIAN MAGEE, JEANNETTE DOMIANO & NORMA WEIR

Leaves \$1.25

Plants sold at Home only.



Travis' Violets.

P.O. BOX 42 OCHLOCKNEE, GA. 31773

WOW !! *

Phone 1-912-574-5167

1-912-574-5236

ORDER NOW BEFORE MARCH 1st AND GET 3 FREE VIOLETS OF OUR CHOICE. MIN. ORDER FOR THIS SPECIAL
IS 10 PLANTS. ORDER FROM THIS AD, OR ANY OF THE 300 VARIETIES IN OUR NEW 1988 CATALOG.

SEND \$1.00 REFUNDABLE ON FIRST ORDER. SOME OF THE NEW VARIETIES WE HAVE TO OFFER:

1988 TRAVIS' VIOLETS

- 1. Midnight Comet
- 8. Edge of Night
- 1. Angelica
- 10. Lovely Linda
- 1. Blue Beacon
- 12. Solar Blue
- 2. Just Fun
- 9. Peach Puff
- 2. Doll Festival
- 11. Orchid Lily
- 2. Dallas Deb
- 13. Star Dream
- 3. Love Talks
- 10. Hoot-N-Toot
- 3. Dutch Treat
- 12. Party Line
- 3. Dixie Delight
- 14. Summer Winds
- 4. Star Shot
- 11. Snow Fire
- 4. Easter Joy
- 13. Pretty In Blue
- 4. Elegant Lady
- 15. White Tribute
- 5. Ruffles-N-Swirls
- 12. Frosted Fruit
- 5. Georgene
- 14. Pretty In Pink
- 5. Gentle Wonder
- 16. Winter Fun
- 6. Wow-Me
- 13. Painted Heart
- 6. Grape Soda
- 15. Pretty In Red
- 6. Mauve Memories
- MINIS AND SEMIS**
- 7. Violet Fever
- 13. Painted Heart
- 7. Hanky Panky
- 16. Princess Moonbeam
- 7. Mixed Magic
- 1. Cande (SM)
- 8. Jacey
- 8. Jacey
- 17. Ricochet
- 8. Moon Rays
- 2. Dallas Doll (SM)
- 9. Klondike
- 9. Perfect Pink
- 10. Pink Tassle
- 3. Ruffled Joy (SM)
- 11. Radiant Star
- 11. Radiant Star
- 4. Think Twice (S)
- 5. Wee Be (SM)

1988 FREDETTE ORIGINALS

- 1. Angelica
- 10. Orchid Lily
- 11. Party Line
- 12. Pretty In Blue
- 13. Pretty In Pink
- 14. Elegant Lady
- 15. Gentle Wonder
- 16. Mauve Memories
- 17. Mixed Magic
- 18. Moon Rays
- 19. Perfect Pink
- 20. Pink Tassle
- 21. Radiant Star

1988 HORTENSE'S HONEYS (STD)

- 1. Blue Beacon
- 2. Dallas Deb
- 3. Dixie Delight
- 4. Elegant Lady
- 5. Gentle Wonder
- 6. Mauve Memories
- 7. Mixed Magic
- 8. Moon Rays
- 9. Perfect Pink
- 10. Pink Tassle
- 11. Radiant Star
- 12. Solar Blue
- 13. Star Dream
- 14. Summer Winds
- 15. White Tribute
- 16. Winter Fun
- MINIS AND SEMIS**
- 1. Cande (SM)
- 2. Dallas Doll (SM)
- 3. Ruffled Joy (SM)
- 4. Think Twice (S)
- 5. Wee Be (SM)

ALSO LYON'S and BETTY BRYANT'S 1987 VARIETIES AND OUR OWN HYBRIDS.

PLEASE LIST A FEW SUBS TO HELP RUSH ORDERS.

1988 PLANTS \$3.00 EACH - ALL OTHERS \$2.50 EACH. PLEASE ADD \$4.00 OR 15% WHICHEVER IS
GREATER FOR FIRST CLASS SHIPPING. SHIPPING STARTS MARCH 1 - South; APRIL 15 - North,
WEATHER PERMITTING - ALL ORDERS SHIPPED IN ORDER AS RECEIVED.

Greenhouse open 7 days a week, please call first.

Commercial Member AVSA, Dixie, GSN, GSAVC. State Inspected.

LYNDON LYON GREENHOUSES, INC.

PAUL & SIDNEY SORANO, HYBRIDIZERS/OWNERS

"Where The Violets Are" — (Since 1954)

FREE

FREE

FREE

Order now to be first in line for spring delivery & choose 1 FREE plant for each 5 ordered. THIS OFFER GOOD ONLY ON VARIETIES LISTED BELOW AND EXPIRES FEBRUARY 28. Remember, those orders received first are first to be shipped!

CALICO MISS - large, light lavender, single to semidouble stars with occasional darker tipping on petals; heavy variegated foliage.

CARELESS BLUE - very large semidouble bright blue stars that sparkle; medium green foliage.

DOUBLE DILLY - soft lavender semidouble to double stars, purple fantasy markings plus a geneva edge that is often times touched with green; medium green foliage.

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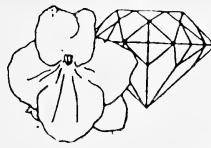
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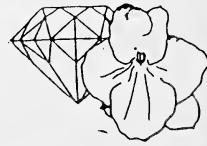
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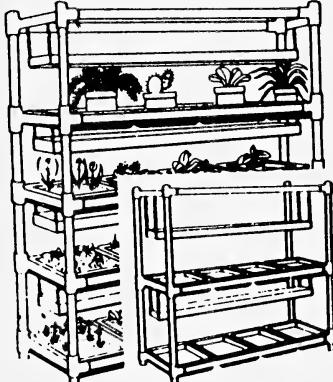
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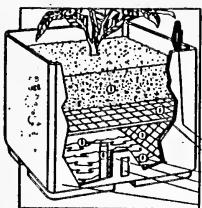


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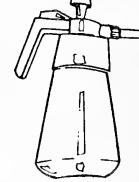
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2-1/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.80	1.50	2.75	5.00	22.00
2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.90	1.65	3.00	5.50	27.00
3"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.00	2.30	4.00	7.50	34.65
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.15	2.75	5.10	9.50	43.45
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.45	3.20	6.00	11.25	49.50
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.00	4.70	6.70	13.00	61.60
5"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.25	4.95	9.50	17.30	78.50
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3-3/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.60	12.50	22.50	103.65
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4"	Gr. or Wt.	1.90	4.40	7.60	14.00
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MAGAZINE

Volume 41

Number 2

March • April 1988

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PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

SHOW ENTRY TAGS: 100 - \$3.75 postpaid. Order from the AVSA Office.

VIOLET SEARCH: Send your name, address, name of plant and hybridizer of older varieties to: Judith Kingsbury, Rt. 1, Box 118, Clayton, WI 54404.



African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 41 Number 2

March/April 1988

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

COVER - As we "march" into spring, 'Minako,' hybridized by Alma S. Hummer of San Antonio, TX leads the way. Minako was named Best New Cultivar-Amateur at the 1987 Orlando convention.

(Kodachrome film developed by Total Chrome, Inc., Hollywood, FL)

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

Membership runs one year from date paid and includes six issues of the African Violet Magazine - Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept. and Nov. Check membership desired.

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6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731
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392 Penn-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534
MRS. JOHN HAYES, Treasurer
9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK TINARI
2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Allien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
1596 Pipkin, Beaumont, TX 77705
MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009
NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704
BOB GREEN, Publications Chairman
997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955
COLUMNISTS
David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Ellie Bogin, Margaret Waguespack, Norita Hallum, Betty Tapping, Hugh Mackey, Marie Burns, Bill Foster, Nancy Hayes, Nancy Lawrence, Linda Neumann, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson and Lyndall Owens
BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER
Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Rte. 1, Prescott, WI 54021
TALLY TIME COMPILER
Mrs. John Chase (Mary) Reed, 17124 NE 29th Place, Bellevue, WA 98008
PUBLISHER: Publishing Today, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Trouble with an advertiser?

Write your AV Advertising

Manager giving complete details.

While AVSA cannot assume responsibility for advertisers, we try to help resolve the problem.

If an advertiser is found irresponsible, they will be refused future ads.

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The African Violet Magazine (ISSN 0002-0265) is published six (6) times a year: January, March, May, July, September, November. Second class postage is paid by the African Violet Society of America, Inc., at 2363 McFaddin, Beaumont, TX 77702 and at additional mailing offices.

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POSTMASTER: Please send change of address form 3579 to AVSA, Inc., P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704.

From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members:

The time for the Dallas Convention is fast approaching and if you have not already done so, I encourage you to complete the registration form included in the January issue and forward to the Registration Chairman, Mary Lou Harden. Convention Chairman, Bill Foster, tells me that the Dallas Convention Committee members are enthusiastically looking forward to hosting the 42nd AVSA Convention, April 10-17.

The special events during convention week, including tours, workshops and programs, all promise an exciting time at "The Grand Reunion in Texas With Violets." I hope many of you plan to enter the show competition with your beautiful specimen plants and designs. After all, this is a Reunion, and it's much more fun to be a participant than a bystander.

The response of the affiliates and individuals, both nationally and internationally, who have contributed to the Building Fund, has been most gratifying. Send your contributions directly to the Building Fund Chairman, Nell-Sue Tyson, and she will acknowledge receipt immediately and keep the records as current as possible. The editor publishes the list of Building Fund contributions in each issue of the magazine upon receipt of the report submitted by the Building Fund Chairman. As has been publicized, the Society's goal is to accumulate \$20,000 by the Dallas Convention to qualify for Lizeta Hamilton's generous matching offer of \$10,000.

We are happy to report that our AVSA membership is growing. Many affiliates elect and install new officers at this time of the year. We hope you will urge all of your members to become affiliated with the national society. Growth is not only desirable, but is a necessity for our organization.

I encourage affiliates and individuals alike to write me about your ideas and concerns for closer ties between the national society and its membership. The Open Forum meeting, chaired by Jack Wilson, at the Dallas Convention is scheduled for Wednesday evening from 7 to 8 p.m. We invite members to attend and present ideas to the Board for improving our society.

One of the joys of this office is receiving from the affiliates their newsletters and other publications. I have enjoyed reading each one I receive. It is very interesting to learn how others are meeting the challenge of growing and showing blue-ribbon African violet plants.

I look forward to greeting you in Dallas.

Happy growing to all,

Frances Young

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence
Office Manager

MEMBERSHIP CARDS:

We have received a few letters from renewing members, asking where their membership cards are; so, I feel it is time again to explain who receives a separate membership card from this office, and who receives a membership card on the white protective cover of their magazine.

New Members: A new member is sent a membership card at the time they join. When they *renew*, their card will be sent on their magazine with an updated expiration date.

Associate Members: Associate members receive a separate card from this office when they join and everytime they renew, because they do not receive a magazine.

Commercial Memberships with two people: When there are two partners in a Commercial membership, one of the partners receives a card from the office; the other partner receives their card on the one magazine that is sent.

Individual Members renewing: Any individual member who renews, receives a card on their magazine showing their new expiration date.

Late Renewals: If your membership expired 1/31/88 or 2/29/88 and your renewal didn't reach this office in time for us to update your record before the March AVM was sent; then, the card on your March AVM will *not* reflect your *new expiration date*. If you need your updated membership card for a judging school or for convention, let us know. We will make an exception this time, and send you one; otherwise, the May AVM will show your new expiration date.

Recently, we received a letter from a member, complaining about the space taken in the January AVM for Convention information. She was referring to the Dallas Convention which will be held at the Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion Hotel from April 10-17, 1988.

The writer of the letter said she was more interested in the "learning and improving of African violets, than in what convention is being held or what takes place there." Well, surely — surely the writer of this letter has never attended an AVSA convention.

The Los Angeles Convention in 1985 was my first. I had no idea what to expect and was probably one of those people who thought that like most conventions, this too would be nothing but "one long swinging party." *Wrong!* The first thing I learned was that AVSA members are very serious about the quality and purpose of their conventions. Anyone who is really interested in improving their growing skills will find that first and foremost an AVSA convention is a *learning experience* that no serious grower should miss.

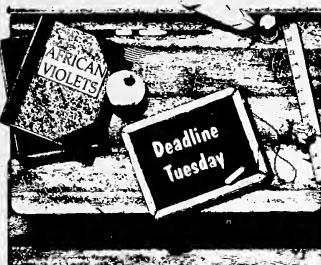
In Dallas there will be many well-planned workshops or presentations on such topics as: "Feeding our Plants," "Pests," "Kissin' Cousins - Gesneriads," "Hybridizing," "Design," and one of the most important sessions to attend is the "Beginner's Forum."

For all growers there is the opportunity to learn what is *new* by attending the "New Cultivar Introduction" slide program. All of the presentations mentioned above are listed in the Convention section of the January AVM.

Secondly, there is the SHOW ROOM. This year in Dallas, it is anticipated that there will be around 1,500 entries exhibited (including amateur, design and commercial divisions). Just imagine three large ballrooms (opened up) to display *wall to wall* African violets. It is a sight so magnificent that upon entering the room, even a non-grower would stop to catch their breath!

If that's not enough to catch your interest, there is also the commercial show room where you will find the latest and older varieties to purchase. There are books on "how to grow," and everything you need in plant supplies; plus, tips from the commercial growers and much, much more.

For these and other reasons, AVSA Conventions are important to those who have been fortunate enough to attend. Last, but not least, an AVSA convention is a warm and friendly experience. Now being a Texan, I must brag a little and say that the Dallas Convention will probably be one of the most friendly experiences you've had — so ya'll make every effort to come on down and enjoy some of our Texas hospitality — you'll be glad you did!



Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

This March magazine is probably my favorite issue to work on and put together. The anticipation of the Convention is riding high and last minute phone calls to make sure the correct information is going to get in, is all a part of a normal day. The folks in Dallas are guaranteeing "the best show ever" and although I'm just a transplanted Texan (a Hoosier, really) I have fallen in love with Texas and everything about it. Dallas is one of the most exciting cities in the United States and Texans really know how to do things right! You are going to miss a great one, if you're not planning on coming to Dallas, April 10-17.

The months of March, April and May are the busiest for those of you in affiliated clubs. The list of Coming Events is just staggering and I'm sure there were a few that didn't make it in time for publication. I took over 25 notices after the deadline and did include them, but it finally reached a point that I had to hold to a cut-off date. I have said before, I am more than happy to include your show notices, and even twice, if I receive them early enough, and yet it seems this deadline problem is getting worse. Please, please, please — get your show notices in before deadline. Although you can find the deadlines for each magazine on the inside cover of each issue, I am going to repeat them here, just as a reminder:

Deadlines

for African Violet Magazines

January issue — Deadline: October 1

March issue — Deadline: December 1

May issue — Deadline: February 1

July issue — Deadline: April 1

September issue — Deadline: June 1

November issue — Deadline: August 1

So remember, as you are reading this magazine in

March, it is already past deadline for the May issue and almost deadline for the July issue.

It may seem like a lot of time, but there is a great deal of work involved in putting out a 72-page color magazine, every other month.

After the articles, columns, notices and ads are submitted they have to be read and edited. If there are any questions on content they have to be answered immediately to continue the process. When the copy is all edited it is typeset, run out, proofread and corrected. Then the ads are handled the same way and placed in position on the pages. The ads go in first, then the regular columnists, then the absolutely necessary material. It all has to fit into 72 pages. The table of contents has to be written, as well as the advertising index. Photographs have to be looked at and sized (if they are chosen and if there is room) and the color section has to be selected. After the magazine is put into pages, a "dummy" is made and proofread, with last minute changes and corrections being completed. Then the entire package is taken to the printer who makes a "wash proof" and again it is all read. After this proof is okayed, the printer has to shoot the plates, strip the negatives, print how many thousands are needed, collate the pages, make all of them (including color pages) into magazines, put on the mailing cover, the office has to run the up-dated mailing labels, the labels have to be put on the magazines, and all of them mailed. This is neither an easy process nor a fast one, so the deadlines have to be met.

I wish all of you the best with your spring shows and hope all of you can make it to Dallas.

Anyone knowing the identity of the person with the variegated foliage plant of Lyon's Moonfire, please contact Mrs. Emilie Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

*David Buttram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051
(816) 461-6086 or 373-4679*



Volkmann Brothers Greenhouses

Deadlines, timetables, and schedules — I hate them. They are too restrictive, too prohibitive and they cramp my style. Each of my visits to Volkmann Greenhouses in Dallas, Texas has been rushed, due to one of the above — even a waiting taxi.

Likewise, this visit to the Volkmanns was rushed, but owners, Walter and Henry, were understanding and cooperative.

What now is a thriving African violet business, began as a hobby of growing bedding plants. The brothers built a 13' x 18' greenhouse in 1949 on land they bought after returning home from military service. The land is adjacent to the house where the

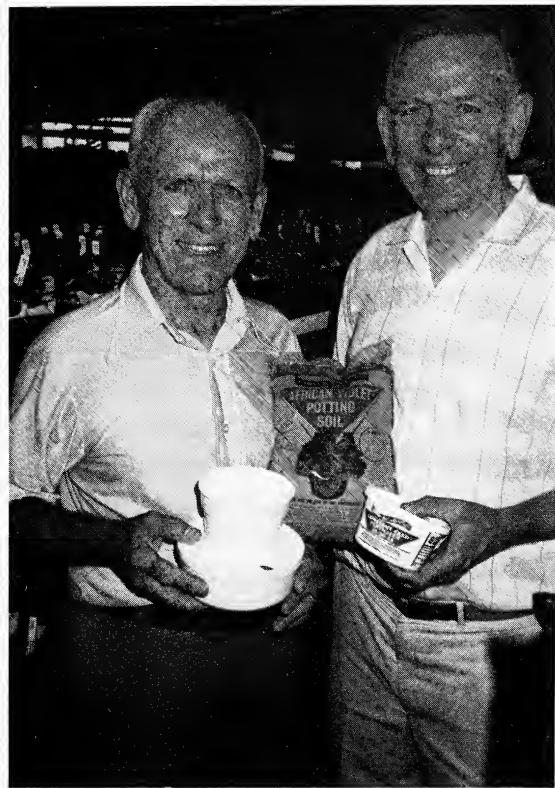
boys grew up, north of downtown Dallas.

By 1953, Henry quit his job with a florist and went into growing, full-time. Walter continued his job in a hospital lab. Soon Henry, single-handedly, built the first of three greenhouses. It measured 28' x 60'.

With Henry building, someone was needed to handle the customers. In 1955, Walter quit his job and joined Henry in the bedding plant operation. Business in bedding plants was not good enough, however, to support two families. Henry remembers those years, "We looked at garden magazines and there were two or three ads for African violets.



Front of Volkmann Brothers Greenhouses in Dallas, Texas



Walter and Henry Volkmann handle their own line of growing supplies.

Tinari's was one of them. We said, 'Well, look. We've got to get into mail order to expand our market.' " The wholesale business wasn't very profitable, so the decision to sell African violets by mail, was the most logical way to go.

The first growing stock came from a company in Milwaukee. Shipped by Railway Express, the plants arrived at the inexperienced growers. Henry looked at me and asked if I "remembered Railway Express?" Was this flattery or what. Actually, I do remember the old Railway Express offices and warehouses that were always in the worst part of town. Henry continued, "We didn't even know how to root the things. We went out to a library and got a book. We rooted some leaves and put ads in garden papers. We gradually worked up a clientele."

As the African violet demand increased, the bedding plant business was totally phased out. Varieties were purchased from Granger Gardens and Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses for propagation. The Volkmanns also like the cultivars from Ellerys in Springfield, Ohio and Richters in Indiana.

Even though Walter is heavily into his own hybridizing, he likes to carry some of the leading hybrids of other growers.

Walter ventured into hybridizing about 12 years ago. He showed me the seed pods from his current crosses and then he shared his records with me. His records are maintained meticulously in a three-ring binder and he can trace the ancestry of his introductions in a moment.

To date, about 125 of Walter's hybrids have been marketed and he believes, "Some real good ones are coming on now."

(I want to interject that I hear that remark from virtually everyone who hybridizes. Hybridizers are truly the eternal optimists.)

Again, Walter arose from his chair and began looking for some recent pictures. "Henry, where's the picture of that one I like?" The pictures were located and Walter proudly showed me some of his yet unnamed introductions. I hinted rather broadly, by asking if any were for sale yet. No luck! But I will be waiting anxiously for the Spring 1988 catalog which should arrive any day.

The Volkmann catalog is a beautiful collection of color photos with descriptions of the plants. It was about eight years ago that they went to color. Now published twice a year, the catalog lists over 110 varieties, as well as a broad range of growing supplies.

The Volkmann brothers are especially proud of their plant stands which are manufactured in the upper floor of their office building. The plant stands are probably the most solid and best constructed of any such stands on the market. Using a custom made



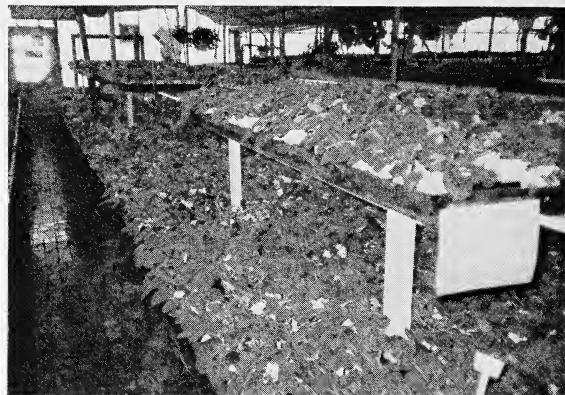
An old method of covering rooting leaves with newspapers to maintain humidity and protect from hot Texas sun.

light fixture, they feel theirs are superior because of the heavier pipes used.

The brothers package and sell their own growing medium and fertilizer (15-30-15) which they use as a constant feed in their greenhouses. Walter lays claim to coming up with the idea of diluting the recommended rate of fertilizer so that a plant is fed every time it is watered. Walter said his concept was a natural one as most of the commercial fertilizers were too strong and many hobbyist growers were burning their plants. By the way, the term "Constant Feed" is a registered trademark of Volkmann Brothers Greenhouses.

Few family members can work together in a business. So the natural question was posed, "How do you men make difficult decisions?" "Well, basically, we both have different ideas," replied Henry. "Okay," I said, "but who compromises the most?" Walter answered this time, "We decide to do what is best for the business. The business controls everything." So the future involves decisions based upon "what is best for the business."

Growers, hybridizers, and entrepreneurs are just three hats the brothers share. In a family business there are many unseen responsibilities to be shared,



Portico of the over 4,300 square foot range plus double decker.

but, likewise, there are many benefits.

Time went so quickly and my plane wouldn't wait for me. So, off I ran in a constant race with Father Time. Even after turning in my rental car, checking the luggage and getting my seat assignment, I was the winner — close — but still the winner.

Next column will be a "tofer" (two for the price of one) as I would sooner travel down the Yellow Brick Road. Good growing.

Tally Time - 1987

*Mrs. John Chase Reed
17124 N. E. 29th Place
Bellevue, WA 98008*

Number of Awards	Variety and Hybridizer Standards	Registration Number
29	Something Special (Nadeau)	3668
19	Wonderland (Granger)	3419
16	Splendiferous (Susan's)	5813
14	Desert Dawn (Eyerdom)	4050
13	Happy Cricket (Hollada)	5726
9	Kiwi Dazzler (Snell)	5888
9	Nortex's Snowkist Haven (Johnson)	6046
9	Tiger (Fredette)	3433
	Semiminiatures	
44	Precious Pink (Pittman)	6025
43	Snuggles (Lyon Greenhouses)	5018
22	Magic Blue (Pittman)	6249

Tally Time is a listing of the varieties receiving the greatest number of total awards during 1987. The awards are for AVSA Collection Awards, Best of Show, Second Best of Show, Best Semiminiature (and Miniature). To assist in compiling further lists, please record the names of the varieties in your show which win these awards and send to Mrs. John Chase Reed, 17124 N.E. 29th Place, Bellevue, WA 98008.



Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Chairman, Miniature and Semiminiature Cultivars
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561

FALL SHOWS

AVS of MINNESOTA

Princess award, best mini, Wee Hope, Palma Trapp

AVS of PENSACOLA, FL

AVSA gold rosette, Precious Pink, Beginner's Luck, Gini; Best mini, Rythym Rascal; Best semi, Precious Pink.

(No exhibitors names were given.)

NORTH STAR AV COUNCIL, MN

Best semi, Hart's Snow White, Retha Johnson

Besides my regular work, I've been busy repotting plants and getting them in shape. A local cable television gardening host came in January to tape my setups. Plants that have been neglected as long as mine were during the summer months, need a lot of work and TLC. It's miraculous what a little leaf and root pruning, plus a goodly amount of fresh soil, can do. In three weeks, plants that looked as though they were on their last legs are budding and blooming up.

Since there aren't too many rows of leaves on these small plants, they need this rejuvenation every three to four months. By then they are a little necky; lower leaves are faded or damaged, etc., and are not producing bloom.

Summer Song by Jan Bruns came back in all its beauty. I had forgotten how lovely it was. It's still one of the prettiest mini chimeras and one of my favorites.

Some of the new plants that have bloomed:

Rob's Starberry, a mini by Robinson, forms a perfect rosette with charming serrated leaves and a very large semidouble rose/pink star.

Pixie Luv by Kolb is an adorable sport of Pixie Blue and just as prolific.

Kitten Prints by Williams is a semimini with large semidouble pink/purple fantasy.

Snuggles Sunshine by Sorano is a mini with a lush fuchsia bloom on pointed variegated leaves.

Little Doll, also by Sorano, is a white semidouble cupped bloom with a blue eye and some blue mot-

ting. Mine shows green tips.

Lucky Lass by Pittman is a mini with a beautiful semidouble rose bloom on TL foliage.

Try and get to see as many of the spring shows that you can. The winners should be noted for future purchases. Most of the clubs have plants for sale and occasionally you can be lucky enough to obtain a leaf or small plant of those on display.

Keep in mind that any new plants you purchase should be kept isolated from your other plants for at least six to eight weeks. A preventive spray of a good miticide and Malathion is a must. It can save you many a heartache later. For those who are uneasy with sprays, the plants can be enclosed overnight in plastic with a piece of pesticide strip.

Don't forget to send in the top mini, semi and trailers from your club's show. It gives other AVSA members a chance to see what plants are winning around the country.

Your list of up to 25 favorite minis, semis, mini and semi trailers would be appreciated. The new plants released in the past few years should be showing up. Lists can be sent personally or through your club. If a club list is sent, I would appreciate a notation of how many members contributed to it.

Good luck to all of you. Be a winner!

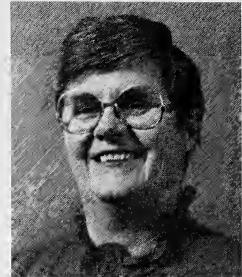
Lynnhaven Club Has Magazines For Sale

The Lynnhaven African Violet Club of Virginia Beach, VA have the following complete sets of the *African Violet Magazine* for sale. They are \$10.00 plus postage for a set. The years are: 1970, 1971, 1972, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986.

They also have broken sets. If you are interested, contact: Mrs. C. L. Hershberger, 3324 Hershridge Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



TRISTATE AV COUNCIL, NJ — "On The Move With Violets," Nancy E. Inhof, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Dance Time, Fisherman's Paradise, Emilie Savage, best in show, Dance Time, 2nd best in show, Fisherman's Paradise, Edith Klaiss; 2nd best AVSA collection, Tip Top, Magic Blue, Precious Pink, best semi, Tip Top, Ann Dooley; best design, "Rickshow," sweepstakes (29 blue ribbons), Ray Dooley; best trailer, Snowy Trail, best miniature, Fairy Tales, Dan Daniels.

LONE STAR AV COUNCIL, TX — "Texas Violet Gala," Mrs. Robert D. Early, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Juicy, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, Something Special, 2nd best in show, Juicy, Wayne Geeslin; 2nd best AVSA collection, Precious Pink, Beginner's Luck, Wee Hummer, best miniature, Mickey Mouse, Patricia Champagne; best in show, Ming White, best trailer, Sapphire Trail, Gerri Goins; best design, "Carnival Time," Mary Alice Barta; best semi, Precious Pink, Mrs. Aloha H. Rhodes; best gesneriad, Aeschynanthus hildebrandii, Richard Nicholas; sweepstakes, Hortense Pittman.

AVC OF TRENTON, NJ — "Intoxicated With Violets," Gary Thurman, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Janet Tensie, Mary Alice, best in show, Creole Royale, Gary Thurman; 2nd best AVSA collection, Ms. Pretty Pink, Love Spots, Stingo, 2nd best in show, Melodie Kimi, best in design, "Around the World - Mexico," best semi, Snuggles, sweepstakes, Rhona Thurman; best trailer, Snowy Trail, Hilda VanderMeer; best miniature, Little Red Devil, Sandy Lang; best gesneriad, E. Silver Chalice, Flora Seman.

THOUSAND OAKS AVS, CA — "Times of Our Lives," Darlene Lowery, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Mark, Garnet Elf, Mary D, best in show, Mark, Darlene Lowery; 2nd best AVSA collection, Avalon, Mary D, Santa Anita, best gesneriad, Streptocarpus, Sherry Plisky; 2nd best in show, Nortex's Snowfrill Haven, best design, "Wedding Anniversary," best miniature, Fairy Tales, sweepstakes, Carroll Gealy; best trailer, Travlin' Man, Carol Sisson; best semi, Magic Blue, Floyd Lawson.

NORTH STAR AVC, MN — Retha Johnson, chairman. Winners: Best Minnesota collection, Ness's Silver Cypress, Ness's Minnesota Magic, Ness's Hey Jude, best in show, Ness's Hey Jude, best NSAVC collection, Nortex's Yuletide Haven, Optimara Rhode Island, Dutch Rose, second best in show, Dutch Rose, best plant arrangement, "Harvest Festival," Ruth Bann; 2nd best NSAVC collection, My Huggy Bear, Hart's Snow White, Irish Angel, best miniature, Irish Angel, Retha Johnson; best container garden, "Japanese Garden Tour," Mary Lou Hall; best interpretive flower arrangement, "Tea For Two," Caroline Fleisch.

AVS OF JACKSONVILLE, FL — "Happy Holidays With Violets," Mrs. Johnnie Ramsey, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Tiger, Something Special, Woodland Sprite, best in show, Something Special, 2nd best in show, Woodland Sprite,

best trailer, Pink Star Lou, best semi, Magic Blue, sweepstakes, Lawanda Hartman; 2nd best AVSA collection, Tiger, Sunlit Sugar Plum, Wonderland, Mary Holare; best design, "Peace on Earth," Johnnie Ramsey; best miniature, Mickey Mouse, Julie Trigg; best gesneriad, Silver Skies, Phyllis Beauchamp.

SUBURBAN AV ENTHUSIASTS, IL — "Up, Up, and Away," Dolly O'Dell and Carol Ryan, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Splendiferous, Happy Cricket, Gail, best in show, Happy Cricket, 2nd best in show, Petite Rose, best design, "Winged Flight," best miniature, Petite Rose, sweepstakes (34 blue ribbons), Connie Romanow; 2nd best AVSA collection, Camelot Pink, Fisher's Leone, Snow Rose, sweepstakes (runnerup, 30 blue ribbons), Evalyn Barborik; best gesneriad, X codonanthus Springtime, Karen Okerstrom.

LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES — "Violets Across America," Sadie K. Plauche, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Greg, Something Special, best in show, Greg, Sophie Cole; 2nd best AVSA collection, Snuggles, Honey Jay, Tip Top, best semi, Snuggles, Penny Brenner; 2nd best in show, Twilight Glo, Anite D'Antoni; best design, "Purple Mountains Majesties," Sadie K. Plauche; best trailer, Santa Fe Trail, Martha Dyson; best miniature, Mickey Mouse, Leora Peres; best gesneriad, Episcia Hirsuta, Marion Ball; sweepstakes, Kathy Oufnac.

AVS OF MINNESOTA — Winners: Best in show and president's award, Mary Craig, 3rd best in show, Dear Ellie, Palma Trapp; 2nd best in show, Tiny Fantasy, Jude Neumann; best in design, "Autumn Hues," Faye Drewianka.

Show Chairman's Daughter To Present Workshops

Melanie Turner of Dallas, daughter of Martha Turner, Show Chairman for the 1988 AVSA Convention to be held April 10 - 17 in Dallas will be conducting two workshops, "Reunion Buffet - Feeding Our Plants," on Friday, April 15 from 1 - 2:30 p.m. and on Saturday, April 16 from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

Melanie holds a B.S. in Biology, an M.A. in Plant Protection, and a Ph.D. in Horticulture. She is currently employed by W. R. Grace & Co., and is the Southwest Branch Manager of the Horticultural Products Division.



Beginner's Forum

*Marie Burns
8624 Deleage Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21237*

As a novice grower you have the entire wonderful world of African violets to explore. This hobby can be a life long pleasure offering many challenges and rewards along the way.

Thinking back to my beginner days, there are a few things that particularly stand out in my memory. Who could ever forget visiting their first African violet show? This beautiful display hooked me for life and inspired a determination to learn the culture necessary to produce such marvelous plants.

The initial year did have its ups and downs. We want so much for our violets to thrive, that with limited growing experience, even the smallest set back can seem a major catastrophe. Let me assure you, this is only a phase and soon you will be "the expert."

In this, my first column, I will deal with lighting and some related problems encountered by most beginners. Since African violets are grown for their beautiful and varied blossoms and flowering is triggered by light, it is safe to say that lighting is the single most important aspect of violet culture. Yet there are so many variables that it is not easy to get everything right the first time. If your plants are not performing as you would like, then light is where to begin.

Natural Light

For those who grow in natural light, you are, of course, limited by the available window space and exposure. Having a choice, remember that as a rule, east is best and next is west. Southern exposures will require some screening and northern windows produce less blossoms.

When too much light is the problem, your leaves will be bleached and very light in color. There can be burned areas on both leaves and blossoms because the sun was simply too intense. The foliage can turn under and actually hug the pot in an effort to reduce

leaf exposure. Fortunately there are ways to improve your growing area. First, try to move the plants back from the window a bit. Sometimes just a few inches can make the difference. Next consider diffusing the light with a sheer curtain. I solved this problem by having my windowsill enlarged and by the use of lattice type screening cut to fit the glass. This gives a neat appearance and minimum care is required.

On the other hand, insufficient light will produce sparse bloom, long leaf stalks and an overall leggy plant. In this case move your violets as close to the window as possible without them touching the glass. Clean your windows frequently (not a popular suggestion) and brush the leaves with a soft cosmetic brush to remove dust. An accumulation of dust on the leaves greatly diminishes the amount of light the plants will receive.

In natural light growing, the time of the year will also affect the quantity of bloom. Do not expect the same number of blossoms in the dead of winter as you would get in the spring and fall. You can, of course, supplement the available daylight by burning a lamp next to the plants for a few hours each evening but this is only practical with a limited collection of violets.

Artificial Light

Fluorescent lighting has made it possible to grow African violets in every part of your home, but choose the area wisely. A location too near the kitchen range is not a good choice because violets are affected by gas and the leaf pores will become clogged with cooking residue.

Avoid a room with a fireplace and the bottom of an opened staircase or you will be constantly brushing dust from violet leaves. Sudden drafts are also quite harmful and will cause blossom drop. Try to keep your light garden away from your outside entrance.

When assembling your growing area, a four-foot fluorescent fixture with two tubes is the most readily available and economical to use. Try to purchase the recessed ceiling type fixtures which have an approximate five-inch space between the fluorescent tubes. These give a more even distribution of light than do the narrower shop type light.

Suspend the fixture 10-12 inches above the foliage of standard size African violet plants. Allow several inches for height adjustment because you may have to raise or lower the fixture. This will adequately light a 4-foot by 1-1/2 foot area. By suspending two fixtures side by side you can extend this growing area considerably due to the overlap lighting created.

Do not be overly concerned with the type of fluorescent tubes used at this early stage. It is possible to achieve excellent results using numerous combinations. Even two cool white fluorescent tubes are acceptable and produce nice plants. My personal preference is one cool white and one Gro Lux wide spectrum tube in each fixture. To keep these at peak performance they are wiped clean every two months and replaced every 12-18 months on a rotating basis. Never replace both fluorescent tubes at the same time unless you reduce the light hours for a week or two or you may bleach the leaves of your violets.

The use of an electric timer to turn lights on and off is advisable since this is the best way to be consistent. Initially, set the timer for 12 hours on and 12 hours off. The dark hours are important because this is when the plants utilize the food manufactured during the light hours. Once you have completed your set up observe your violets carefully. In approximately three weeks you should start seeing some change. If the plants are responding and look fine, leave things as they are and keep watching. At the end of two months you can be fairly certain your light setup is working.

All is not well when the plants refuse to bud, the leaves are reaching and there is weak, pale growth. The violets are telling you more light is needed. You can increase intensity by lowering the fixture 1-2 inches or by adding light hours. Never do both at the same time. Start by lowering the fixture 1 inch and if there is no improvement in a few weeks, add one hour of light time. Keep experimenting until you get the best combination of distance and time for your individual setup.

Although you will see a dramatic improvement in your violets, do not be tempted to supply more and more light. Cultural problems such as tight centers, brittle foliage and short petioles will develop as a result of excessive lighting. The recommended 12 hours of light may be too much for your particular area. In this case, it is necessary to reduce the light hours or raise the fluorescent fixture.

Every African violet plant is an individual and you should try to locate the best placement for each variety under the lights. Remember that the light intensity is greatest directly under the center of the fluorescent tubes and lessens toward either side of the fixture. As a general rule, variegated leaf varieties seem to require the most light. With a little experimenting it is possible to locate the correct place for every plant in your collection. Do allow a few weeks for each location because results are not instantaneous. For symmetrical plants, it is also important to turn your violets even under fluorescent lighting since they tend to draw toward the center of the fixture.

African violets grown under fluorescent lighting require the same general care and culture as those grown in natural light. As a result of providing ideal light conditions for approximately 12 hours each day there will be an increased demand for water and fertilizer. Proper light is the beginning but careful consideration of all the other growing factors is necessary to produce happy plants.

AVSA Booster Fund

*Mrs. Linda A. Neumann
11620 Mapleridge Drive
North Royalton, OH 44133-2904*

The snowflakes of winter shall soon bring forth the flowers of spring. Help the Booster Fund "blossom" with a spring donation.

Elizabeth L. Wink, WI	
Corpus Christi AVS, TX	20.00
AVS of Minnesota	25.00
AVS of Greater Tulsa, OK	5.00
Sweet Water AVS, NY	10.00
Old Dominion AVS, No. VA	25.00
Capital City AVS, CA	25.00
Amethyst AVC, MO	10.00

Introducing . . .

Your AVSA Nominees



For Director . . .
Raymond J. Dooley



For Director . . .
Rita G. Hilton



For Director . . .
Christine Kemmerling



For Director . . .
Anna Landgren



For Director . . .
Lynn Lombard

The Nominating Committee has selected the following slate of officers and directors to present to the membership at the 1988 Annual Meeting:

For President: Mrs. Fred C. (Frances) Young, 6109 Shadow Mountain Drive, Austin, Texas 78731; for **First Vice President:** Mrs. Arthur F. (Mary) Boland, 6415 Wilcox Court, Alexandria, Virginia 22310; for **Second Vice President:** Mr. A. Charles Bollar, 17055 Community Street, Northridge, California 91325; for **Third Vice President:** Mrs. J. R. (Hortense) Pittman, 12406 Alexandria Street, San Antonio, Texas 78233; for **Secretary:** Mrs. Donald N. (Janet) Riemer, 392 Pennington-Harbourton Road, Pennington, New Jersey 08534; for **Treasurer:** Mrs. John A. (Nancy) Hayes, Jr., 9 Cobblestone Road, Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002.

For Directors (to serve 1988-1991):

Raymond J. Dooley, 214 Thompson St., New York, New York 10012, is a graduate of the Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts, and New York University School of the Arts. For the past 16 years he has worked as a Lighting Designer in theatre and dance.

Ray has grown African violets for 25 years and is a Senior Judge and Teacher. He was the recipient of an AVSA One-Year Honorary Membership in 1981. He has lectured on design all over the United States and Canada, giving two of these lectures at AVSA conventions. He has worked on three conventions, entered in eight and judged six.

Locally, he is a past president of New York State AVS, serving on the board for 14 years. He is also past president of New York City AVS and the New York State Judges Council. He is an active member of TriState AVS and the AVS of Staten Island.

Ray is currently on the faculty of Bennington College where he serves on the budget committee and the academic council.

Rita G. Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow, Florida 33830, was born in Black Mountain, NC, graduated from Blue Mountain College in Mississippi and then worked as a home demonstration agent in Tennessee before moving to Bartow, FL

where she has been the office manager for Imperial Lumber Co., for the past 20 years.

She became interested in African violets in April, 1979 when she attended a show in Winter Haven sponsored by the AV Council of Florida.

Her desire to learn how to design with African violets led her to join a garden club circle. Now, in addition to being an accredited flower show judge for the National Council of Garden Clubs, she is district vice director and horticulture chairman, and serves on the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' State Board.

Rita is in demand to give programs, primarily on African violets, to garden clubs and African violet clubs throughout central and south Florida. Her interest in design led her to join Ikebana International Chapter #152 and is now serving as second vice president.

She is immediate past president of the AV Council of Florida. Her local club is Mid-Polk AVS having served as president (2 terms), vice president, secretary, treasurer and a representative for AVSA, Dixie and the Florida Council. She is an AVSA Advanced Judge and was convention vice chairman for the 1987 convention in Orlando.

Christine Ann Kemmerling, 3030 B N. 124th St., Wauwatosa, WI 53222, has been growing African violets since she was about 5 years old and an AVSA member for about 12 years. She is an AVSA Senior Judge and Teacher and is active in the Brew City Violeteers, the Wisconsin Council of AV Clubs and the Wisconsin AVSA Judges Council. She has served as president (6 years), currently vice president, show chairman, staging, judges, publicity, schedule and awards for both local and council shows. She is Time and Place chairman for the council and vice president of the Judges council. Chris worked on the 1983 Milwaukee AVSA convention and frequently gives programs in both design and horticulture.

She has her BS degree from the University of Wisconsin in art education and has an associate degree in accounting from Milwaukee Area Technical College. Chris has taught classes in cross stitch, crocheting, knitting, quilting and calligraphy. She has developed several African violet slide programs for speaking and teaching engagements.

Chris works as a full-time accountant and part-time calligrapher for the National Funeral Directors Assn. and is also assistant registrar for their annual

convention.

Anna Jean Landgren, 810 Ingleside Place, Evanston, IL 60201, has been growing African violets about 25 years. She is a member of the AVS of Northern Illinois, serving as its president, show chairman, classification, entries, judges and clerks chairman. She is active in the Illinois AVS, currently serving as membership, show and entries chairman. She is an AVSA Life Member and Judge. She grows about 700-800 African violets and has won numerous awards.

Anna Jean is a graduate of Oberlin College with a degree in music education. She has taught music in schools, directed church choirs, and has sung professionally as a soprano soloist for churches and clubs. She is a member of the Chicago Horticultural Society; has belonged to four music clubs and has held numerous offices in the Evanston Womens Club. She is currently a Deacon in her church and is an avid golf fan.

She has attended AVSA conventions since 1983, accompanied by her husband, George, who is Slide Library chairman for the Illinois AVS.

Lynn Lombard, 1407 Calle Espana, San Dimas, CA 91773, is a long-time resident of southern California and received her Bachelor's degree from UCLA, followed by a Master's degree and 20 years in the field of education. She is currently teaching the gifted and academically talented.

Lynn is a Life Member of AVSA and Judge, and owns and operates her own business, "The Velvet Leaf," selling African violets, self-watering planters and decorative ceramics. She provides computer services for individuals, organizations and businesses.

She is a member of the Tustana AVS, Pomona Valley AVS and Foothill AVS. She has served as publicity chairman for all three clubs, vice president for Tustana and founded Foothill in 1983, serving as its president in 1983-84. She is also a member of the AVS of Southern California and has served as its show publicity chairman, and was co-registration chairman for the 1985 AVSA convention in Los Angeles, where she computerized registration, entries and awards. She does speaking engagements on AV culture for various organizations and grows about 3,000 plants.

She and her husband occupy a house full of violets and three large dogs. They travel extensively and visit violet growers along the way.

QUESTION BOX



*Mrs. John Hayes
9 Cobblestone Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002*



At this time of the year many of us are starting to sing, "Deep in the Heart of Texas!" I often remind myself of the amount of work that local convention hosts put into final preparations for our descent upon their city. Throughout my travels I have come to really know that there is something to that term, "southern hospitality." My daughter and I experienced an abundance of it on our visit last fall to Texas for the Executive Board meeting and her visit to a college in Galveston.

The Building Fund is quickly approaching a very important deadline. That beautiful lady, Lizeta Hamilton, will be generously bestowing a gift upon this fund according to the amount of monies we have raised. She will be giving us \$1.00 for every \$2.00 donated. In other words, if we can raise \$20,000 she will give us an additional \$10,000! The deadline for her matching our donations will be the Dallas convention. Those of you who are coming to Dallas, should plan to take part in the last minute appeals to this fund. Why not help us toward the goal of becoming more self-sufficient and office-wise. Our Building Fund Chairman, Nell-Sue Tyson will be very happy to receive and acknowledge your donations in any way you indicate. Why not honor someone special who has done a lot for you personally, or your violet organization, or a president about to go out of office?

Good luck as you prepare to enter your local shows and/or the national convention/show.

Question: I am puzzled on the use of fluorescent lights. So many advocate the use of specialized Gro-Lux bulbs but they are so expensive and I am starting my violet growing hobby as my husband and I enter retirement on a limited fixed income. What should I do?

Answer: If you were to gather a group of violet hobbyists and ask them about their fluorescent tube

preferences, it would be like trying to get a single recipe for brownies or spaghetti sauce from the same group. This question is among the most frequently asked. You will create a plant that has blossom and foliage color more enhanced by the use of the specialized Wide Spectrum and standard Gro-Lux bulbs, but they are not necessary to good growth, and for that matter, show plants. Many people use nothing more than standard cool white bulbs you purchase in the local hardware store. Many use a combination of cool white and warm white; in fact, this is what I have used for many years, as have many of my friends. You will receive very satisfactory growing conditions with these bulbs.

Question: Are timers absolutely necessary for growing plants under lights?

Answer: For me the answer to this question is an emphatic — YES! it would take a very regimented person to guarantee that lights would be turned off and on at exactly the same time every day and that is what is necessary to maintain optimum growth for your plants. You know what happens to your body when you are thrown off schedule. Well, that unplanned shopping trip, illness, etc., could make you forget to turn your lights off and on. A regular program of light is most important to give consistent conditions to your plants.

Question: I was so excited with the fluorescent light setup I received for my birthday and now, two months later, I find that my plants appear spindly and not at all what I expected to achieve with the addition of lights. Am I using the wrong bulbs?

Answer: Upon inquiry I received enough information to help out a new grower and while the information may be quite general to many, we have to remember that we have new members all year long and growers trying new methods. This woman was using correct bulbs, as mentioned in the previ-

ous question. Only one problem existed — her lights were 14" above her plants and many of her plants were young seedlings given to her by a friend. The rest of her collection consisted of miniatures. Clearly the lights were much too far from the tops of her plants. Your lights should be 8"-10" for standard well-established plants and as close as 6"-8" for your starter, miniature and smaller plants.

Question: I have been trying to start leaves in my plant soil mix and I seem to be waiting a long time for resulting plantlets; and sometimes I get none at all.

Answer: Fortunately, this grower included his soil mixture recipe and photographs of lovely, large standard plants. Obviously the large amount of soil in his mixture was too heavy for plantlet propagation by leaf. There are probably as many recipes for propagation by leaf as there are for soil mixes for plants, but most have one common property — lightness. Most have very little soil and are made up of mostly vermiculite and perlite. This combination makes it easier for small plants to push their way up from the mother leaf. I use equal parts of dampened perlite and vermiculite. You can keep it forever, so I buy large bags to cut down on cost.

Question: I showed a lovely trailer at my last spring show and the judges were very severe, in my opinion. The comments reflected that in spite of its size and generous amount of bloom, one or two of the crowns were out of proportion to the rest of the plant because they had larger leaves. Is that fair?

Answer: Symmetry to trailers and standard single crown plants alike, is important. Undoubtedly this was disturbed by these crowns with larger leaves and actually points were probably deducted under Condition. Many people fail to look at the "whole" plant and see this kind of growth which unfortunately does occur with some trailers. For some reason, one or several crowns will revert to previous parentage and sport with larger leaves. If they are only outside leaves, then they should be removed. Sometimes the entire crown needs to be cut out; and hope that it does not ruin the plant for showing. If these leaves are much too large for this variety, do not put them down for propagation.

Question: Will I risk pest infestation from show plants brought home from my local show?

Answer: We all would hope that none of "our" friends has a pest problem on plants brought to the show. In reality, pests do not show their evidence readily, when first attacking a plant, and your friend

and mine, may not know that he or she has a problem. In other words, yes, you can risk bringing home unwanted "guests" from your local shows. Isolation is a way of observing for evidence of disease, but of course, you have to wait many weeks and most of us do not have the space to isolate large quantities of show plants. Many people strip their plants back and thus have a better ability at isolating them. Pauline Bartholomew, in her wonderful book, "Growing To Show," relates a procedure she uses after a show. She groups all show plants together, and those plants left at home, together. She then hangs a No-Pest Strip on each light stand, tents them with plastic for three consecutive nights, and moves the strips around from shelf to shelf for several weeks. As she says, "Keep your fingers crossed!"

Question: I am puzzled as to what to use for wicking. I see so many different products for sale and hear of so many different types of wicks — what would you suggest?

Answer: Wicking is another area of violet growing that has many answers. This inquiring mind was of that group of retired people who do so much work for our beloved Society. She is becoming so busy, she says, that she needs an easier method of watering her growing population of plants. I was so glad to hear of her being as normal as the rest of us — never too few plants. True, there are many commercial preparations for wicking plants, but I have not found that there is any one that is essentially more superior than another. You can choose price and availability as a gauge as to what you will purchase. Right in your own home you may find what many use — yarn and nylon stockings. I personally find yarn can be a little too small for larger plants (actually you might need two or three yarn wicks for a large plant). I prefer, when I run out of commercial cord, to use nylon stockings. Almost everyone has runned stockings or the availability of such from a friend. Cut a circle, pull it to make it tighten up and cut to give you length. You can make the circle width smaller for small plants and larger for the bigger plants. It draws water very well.

Question: I sometimes have difficulty getting my plants out of the pots at repotting time. I am afraid to tap too hard on the side of the table and find it especially difficult for those that are larger in size. Do you have any suggestions?

Answer: I solved this problem for myself many years ago. When potting all plants, I use a circle of

synthetic screening available at hardware stores. It can be cut with scissors in a square or circle, and I place it in the bottom after my wick has been threaded through the hole. This keeps excessive soil particles from coming out the bottom of the pot AND as the roots grow, makes it very easy to stick a pencil or nut pick through the hole in the bottom of the pot. Push up and it will come out like a dream!

Question: Disbudding, that is the question; to do it or not. Do you?

Answer: This can be painful to the person who has a small collection of plants. I have a friend who prefers to have her collection called "limited" rather than "small." Space, but also having blooms to enjoy, were her problems. She did what is called selective, or, perhaps partial, disbudding for some months before a show, allowing an occasional bloom stalk to develop to see some color on her plants. About 10 weeks prior to show, you should disbud completely to allow for maximum flowering. I feel very strongly about trying this much earlier in the year to see actually how long a particular variety may take to come into complete full bloom. You also have to adjust for the time of year. Winter, or very early spring brings cooler temperatures and often they may take a little extra time to come into a full head of flowers. I have never had success with disbudding of trailers and you have to be especially careful with some of the miniatures. I have found that they seem to vary on their timing; more than standard varieties. Extremely prolific miniature varieties are usually okay, but not all have huge heads of bloom. You must take additional care with disbudding the "little ones."

Question: I have soil mealy bug. That took courage to say. What can I do?

Answer: The answer to this question is not as simple as many may think. The first answer many of us think of is destruction, and not of the bug, but of the plant! "Throw it out," is an oft repeated phrase. The treatment is harsh and disheartening. These bugs have been known to survive many types of persistent treatment, and even then it is not always successful. I have been told that some have had success with Knox-Out, using 2 tablespoons to 1 gallon of water and using it as a drench once a week for 3 weeks. Cygon 2-E also is used, but it often has devastating effects on the plant because of the chemicals.

Question: I have been pinching the centers of my

trailers to encourage more crowns; a few of my varieties seem to be resisting this method and not producing more crowns. Any suggestions?

Answer: I, too, have had a similar problem with a couple of my "Nancy Hayes" plants. While visiting with me this past fall, Hortense Pittman suggested using a toothpick or needle, and after removing those tiny center leaves, sticking them into the crown in a few places—well, that was the cure for my two little stubborn plants. They are now showing an extra growth I had been trying for, for some time! They like "acupuncture."



AVSA Director Betty Tapping of Toronto, Canada, is shown holding L'Ambassadeur hybridized by Denis Croteau. Betty's entry won Best In Show at the New York State Convention held in Toronto in October 1987.

(Photo by Marilyn Goldstein, Hollywood, Florida)

**Don't Miss The
"Grand Reunion In Texas"
April 10-17, 1988**

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are \$1.00 and are valid for two (2) years from the date they are received from the registrar.

Registrations

Carol Sotkiewicz, Toledo, OH

***Evening Star Trail** - Standard trailer - Single rose star with white feathered tips. Plain, ovate, medium green foliage. #6725 10/9/87

***Honey Trail** - Semiminiature trailer - Semidouble deep pink star with raspberry streaks. Quilted, fringed, heartshaped dark green foliage. #6726 10/9/87

***Lavender Cotton** - Standard trailer - Double lavender star with darker eye and white petal back. Plain, pointed, fringed, medium green with pale green reverse. #6727 10/9/87

***Sea Spray** - Semiminiature trailer - Semidouble pink with purple fantasy. Rounded, heavily quilted, dark green with some red reverse foliage. #6728 10/9/87

***Sundrops** - Semiminiature trailer - Double pink star with lavender fantasy and red petioles. Quilted, fringed, heart-shaped medium green foliage. #6729 10/9/87

***Watersprite** - Semiminiature trailer - Double white and pink star fantasy with dark purple tips. Quilted, fringed, ovate medium green foliage. #6730 10/9/87

Sidney & Paul Sorano/Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses, Dolgeville, NY

***Autumn Blues** - Large - Semidouble light blue. Green and white variegated, quilted, ovate foliage. #6732 11/2/87

***Beau Jester** - Large - Double star fringed dark lavender with purple fantasy. Dark green, red backed plain foliage. #6733 11/2/87

***Blueberry Buckle** - Large - Double blue star with

geneva edge. Medium green, red backed wavy foliage. #6734 11/2/87

***Coral Cloud** - Large - Semidouble white star with coral mottling. Medium green plain foliage. #6735 11/2/87

***Coral Kiss** - Large - Semidouble coral star. Medium green with light red back plain, pointed foliage. #6736 11/2/87

***Dusty Memory** - Large - Semidouble dusty rose pink star with geneva edge. Medium green red backed, plain, ovate foliage. #6737 11/2/87

***Fickle Flirt** - Large - Semidouble pink star with blue fantasy and geneva edge. Plain, quilted foliage. #6738 11/2/87

***Grape Slush** - Large - Semidouble lavender star with purple tips. Pink, green and white variegated, quilted, ruffled foliage. #6739 11/2/87

***Hello Sunshine** - Large - Semidouble fuchsia star with geneva edge. Medium green, red backed, plain, quilted foliage. #6740 11/2/87

***Little Doll** - Miniature - Semidouble white star with blue mottling. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. #6741 11/2/87

***Little Treasure** - Semiminiature - Double white with fringed blue edge, and some green on edge. Medium green plain, wavy foliage. #6742 11/2/87

***Love Stripes** - Large - Single white star chimera with light blue side stripes. Medium green plain foliage. #6743 11/2/87

***Luv's Reflection** - Large - Double ruffled pink chimera with blue center stripe, geneva edge. Variegated, quilted foliage. #6744 11/2/87

***Morning Thunder** - Large - Double white with blue edge. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. #6745 11/2/87

***Painted Sunrise** - Large - Semidouble pink two tone with dark pink petal tips. Green, pink and

white variegated, plain, pointed foliage. #6746
11/2/87

***Petticoats-N-Lace** - Large - Double white star with faint pink blush. Green, white and pink variegated, quilted, pointed foliage. #6747 11/2/87

***Petticoats-N-Pink** - Large - Semidouble light pink star with occasional dark pink petal tips. Pink, green and white variegated, quilted, ruffled foliage. #6748 11/2/87

***Pink Confession** - Large - Semidouble pink star with pink veining. Dark green with red reverse, plain foliage. #6749 11/2/87

***Ramblin Silver** - Semiminiature trailer - Double white. Green and yellow variegated foliage. #6750 11/2/87

***Sea Princess** - Semiminiature - Semidouble blue star. Green and white variegated, plain, ovate foliage. #6751 11/2/87

***Sheer Romance** - Large - Double pink star with geneva edge. Medium green, ovate foliage. #6752 11/2/87

***Slightly Sassy** - Large - Double lightly ruffled pink star with dark pink edges. Medium green plain foliage. #6753 11/2/87

***Snow Squall** - Large - Semidouble white star. Medium to dark green, plain foliage. #6754 11/2/87

***Snuggles Love** - Miniature - Double white with light pink center. Medium green and white variegated, plain foliage. #6755 11/2/87

***Snuggles Sunshine** - Miniature - Double fuchsia star. Green and white variegated, plain foliage. #6756 11/2/87

***Spring Fancy** - Large - Single medium pink chimera star with blue fantasy all over petals and blue center stripe. Dark green, white and pink variegated, plain, pointed foliage. #6757 11/2/87

***Stardust Blue** - Large - Double light blue star. Medium green, quilted foliage. #6758 11/2/87

***Sunshine Prince** - Large - Double fuchsia star. Dark green, red backed, quilted foliage. #6759 11/2/87

***Toy Castle** - Miniature - Double lavender fringed bell. Green, pink and cream variegated, plain, glossy foliage. #6760 11/2/87

Hila Van Horn, La Mirada, CA

***Jenny Ann** - Standard - Double fringed lavender two tone with darker edged and tips. Medium green, plain foliage. #6761 10/10/87

Janet Wickell/Rainwater Violets, Raymore, MO

***Kansas City Trails** - Standard trailer - Semi-double/double glittery pink star with raspberry haze all over, concentrated on petal edges. Medium green, slightly quilted, glossy, scalloped foliage. #6762 11/3/87

Bud Weber, Northport, NY

***Bud's Melanie** - Large - Single white star. Quilted foliage. #6763 11/7/87

Frank Tinari/Tinari Greenhouses, Huntingdon Valley, PA

***Crystal Plum** - Standard - Single/semidouble ruffled white open blossom with deep plum edges. Medium green, lightly quilted, serrated foliage. #6764 11/9/87

***Fantasy Frolic** - Standard - Semidouble lavender pink ruffled splashed with dark purple fantasy. Medium green, plain, heart shaped, slightly hairy foliage. #6765 11/9/87

***Freckled Star** - Standard - Semidouble lavender pink ruffled star with fantasy of deep purple blotches. Medium green, slightly quilted, glossy, heart shaped foliage. #6766 11/9/87

***White Cameo** - Standard - Double white. Medium green quilted, heart shaped foliage. #6767 11/9/87

Barbara & Jim Sisk, Gretna, LA

***Cajun Fiddler** - Large - Double two tone pink with deeper edges. Variegated, ruffled foliage. #6768 11/9/87

***Judy Partain** - Large - Semidouble deep pink. Variegated foliage. #6769 11/9/87

***Kissy Face** - Large - Double pink two tone. Variegated foliage. #6770 11/9/87

***Lovely Lady** - Large - Double ruffled purple two tone. Variegated foliage. #6771 11/9/87

***Memphis In May** - Large - Semidouble ruffled fuchsia two tone. Variegated dark green and pink with red reverse foliage. #6772 11/9/87

***Perhaps Love** - Large - Very full double lavender with deeper lavender edge geneva. Variegated foliage. #6773 11/9/87

***Sweet Praline** - Large - Double ruffled medium blue. Variegated pink & white foliage. #6774 11/9/87

Ramona Hodges, Birmingham, AL

***Ramona's Coral Kitty** - Semiminiature - Semi-double coral chimera star with white stripe. Medium green tailored, glossy foliage. #6775 - 11/15/87

Geo. Starr, Pensacola, FL

***Astral Macro** - Large - Single to semidouble slightly ruffled pink two tone star with deeper centers. Plain, quilted, red reverse foliage. #6776 11/21/87

***Astral Nexus** - Large - Semidouble slightly ruffled red. Dark green, plain, quilted red reverse foliage. #6777 11/21/87

***Astral Peace** - Large - Double pink two tone star. Plain, quilted red reverse foliage. #6778 11/21/87

***Pensi Pride** - Standard - Semidouble light pink. Quilted, tan to pink variegation. #6779 11/21/87

Tony Foote, Dallas, TX

***Tony's Extravaganza** - Standard - Double ruffled red. Plain, slightly wavy, Tommie Lou variegation with some pink, red reverse foliage. #6780 11/23/87

Marie Beeman, Healdsburg, CA

***Marie's Anna Smith** - Large - Very full double medium blue. Wavy, glossy, with pink and white variegated foliage. #6781 11/26/87

***Marie's Aunt Mary** - Large - Semidouble fringed lavender two tone with purple pencil edge. Pointed, variegated, notched outer edge foliage. #6782 11/26/87

***Marie's Frances Bufano** - Large - Single to semi-double medium blue fringed two tone with darker pencil edge. Ruffled, glossy, heart shaped, variegated rose and cream foliage. #6783 11/26/87

***Marie's Frank Bufano** - Large - Semidouble fringed medium to dark blue. Quilted, glossy, variegated foliage. #6784 11/26/87

***Marie's Kenny Bill** - Large - Semidouble ruffled medium blue. Quilted, cupped up, spooned, glossy, variegated foliage with pink reverse. #6785 11/26/87

***Marie's Little Bandit** - Large - Single medium blue with pink and white fantasy. Plain medium green foliage. #6786 11/26/87

***Marie's Pacific Serenade** - Large - Single ruffled light blue star. Quilted, ruffled, glossy, variegated foliage with rose reverse. #6787 11/26/87

***Marie's Sincerely Winston** - Standard - Semi-double fringed bright mauve two tone. Wavy, glossy, heavily variegated foliage. #6788 11/26/87

***Marie's Stillwater Cove** - Large - Single ruffled medium blue. Ruffled, cupped up variegated rose and ivory with rose reverse foliage. #6789 11/26/87

***Marie's Three Bells** - Large - Very full double bright blue. Ruffled, glossy, rose and green variegated foliage with pink reverse. #6790 11/26/87

Name Reservations

Carol Sotkiewicz, Toledo, OH

* Mermaids Tears * Plum Pixie * Sundial *

Don & Jean Ness, White Bear Lake, MN

* Ness's Blue Babe * Ness's Blue Gremlin * Ness's Brandyberry * Ness's Crystal Rose * Ness's Peach Fluff * Ness's Pink Fluff * Ness's Purple Gremlin * Ness's Shirley's Delight * Ness's Viking Babe * Ness's Viking King * Ness's Viking Maiden * Ness's Viking Queen * Ness's Viking Rose *

Honey Geck, Huntington Beach, CA

* Fine Feathers * Gospel Swamp *

Paul & Sidney Sorano, Dolgeville, NY

* Autumn Sunset * Calico Miss * Candy Hearts * Dream Lover * Fancy Flirt * Firewalker * Flirtatious Rose * Heaven's Reflection * Midnight Magic * Paradise Pink * Peppermint Doll * Peppermint Lady * Pink Mint * Ramblin Lullaby * Ramblin Prince * Ramblin Spots * Snow Pixie * Snuggles Clown * Snuggles Little Dreamer * Snuggles Little Prince * Starlight Fantasy *

Michel Tremblay, Keswick, Ontario

* Picasso *

Joen Gehr, Land O' Lakes, WI

* Fast Lane * Joie de Viere * Neutron Star * Quiet Riot *

Tony Foote, Dallas, TX

* Tony's Boom Boom * Tony's Casual Firemist * Tony's Firemist * Tony's Gem * Tony's Glamorama * Tony's High Performance * Tony's High Tech * Tony's Major Ordeal * Tony's Outrageous *

Tony's Super Special * Tony's Virtual Perfection *

Name Reservation Renewals
Daphne Snell, Pukekohe, New Zealand

* Kiwi Blaze *

Sidney & Paul Sorano, Dolgeville, NY

* Frosted Sherry * Gimme Pink * High Pockets *
Little Spirit * Moonshine * Painted Skies * Painted
Sunset * Peppermint Kiss * Petticoats-N-Blue *
Pretty Snazzy * Snow Flurry * Spanish Sunset *
Strawberry Kiss * Triple Silk *

Registration & Reservation Corrections

*Wewonchu #6162 - Change name to ACA's
Wewonchu

*Rob's Sweet Pea #6509 - Change name to Rob's
Swee' Pea

Playmate Pet reserved by Hortense Pittman -
Change to Playful Pet

Ruby Sunrise reserved by Tony Foote - Change
name to Tony's Ruby Sunrise

Reservations Omitted from Previous Report

Janet Wickell/Rainwater Violets, Raymore, MO

*Pearl Batik * Moonlight Confetti * Plaza Fountains

* Positively Pink *

All obsolete registration cards will be sent to the AVSA business office where they will be maintained in our archives.

H

Hanging Basket Purple, #271; Hawaiian Skies, #691; Hawaiian Sunset, #272; Hawthorn, #273; Heartsease, #274; Heather, #275; Heavenly Blue Eyes, #276; Heidi, #277; Helen Montgomery, #278; Helen Wilson, #279; Helen Wilson Bouquet, #280; Hi Loa Light Blue, #282; High Hat, #281; Hinkley's Velvet Puff, #856; Hit or Miss, #283; Hobnail Pink, #284; Holiday, #752; Holly, #285; Holly Halo, #798; Holly Picotte, #950; Hollys Double, #286; Honey Girl, #287; Hoosier Beauty, #288; Hoosier Maid, #289; Hoosier Pink, #956; Hope, #290; Hortense Mitchell, #291; Hypatica, #292.

I

Ice Capades, #293; Illini Chieftain, #294; Illini Princess, #295; Indian Princess, #296; Indianola, #875; Innocence, #297; Inspiration, #298; Invader, #984; Ionantha Supreme, #299; Iowa, #300; Iridescent, #301; Iris, #792.

J

Jean Macarthur, #302; Jenny, #303; Jivaro, #304; Joan of Arc, #305; Joe's Cover Girl, #307; Joe's Jody Girl, #309; Joel's Delight, #306; Joes Dark Magic Girl, #308; Johanna, #970; Josabel Read, #310; Joy's Blue Midnight, #777; June Bride, #758; Junette, #311; Juno, #312.

K

Kansas City Girl, #313; Kansas City Kitty, #314; Kaw Valley Chanticleer, #1004; Kaw Valley Delft Blue, #1005; Kaw Valley Dogwood, #1006; Kaw Valley Kansas City Child, #1007; Kaw Valley Springtime, #1008; Kaw Valley Storm Girl, #1009; Kehl's Sweet Pea Red Girl, #315; Kelly Blue, #702; Kentucky Babe, #848; Kentucky Bluegrass, #849; King Kong, #316; King Richard, #827.

L

L M Byrnes Blue, #344; Lace Petticoats, #317; Lacy Bouquet, #318; Lady "K", #324; Lady Alura, #803; Lady Bette, #319; Lady Catherine, #320; Lady Constance, #321; Lady Corrine, #322; Lady Eleanor, #323; Lady Greenwood, #697; Lady Lockette, #766; Lady Loretta, #324; Lady Pearl, #325; Lady Slipper, #326; Lancaster Red, #327; Lassie Girl, #698; Lavender After Glow, #328; Lavender Beauty, #329; Lavender Elfin Girl, #331; Lavender Frills, #332; Lavender Pink Girl, #333; Lavender-Blue, #330; Leota Belle, #334; Lilac Beauty, #335; Lilac Cluster, #336; Lilac Girl, #337; Lilac Time, #338; Lili, #339; Lillian, #340; Lindy Bell, #341; Little Geneva Princess, #342; Little Sweetheart, #343; Loch Loma, #790; Lois, #345; Long Island Deb, #783; Lorna Doone, #346; Lotus Blue, #347; Love Girl, #349; Love-Birds, #348; Lovely Lady, #350; Luana, #351; Lucky Girl, #351; Lulu Belle, #844; Lyle Ann, #353.

M

Mad Hat, #819; Madame Butterfly, #701; Mademoiselle, #356; Main's Melanie, #357; Mammoth Red, #358; Mamselle, #748; Maple Girl, #359; Mardie's Fuchsia, #362; Mardie's Purple, #360; Mardie's Violet Bicolor, #361; Marie's Fuchsia, #362; Marilyn Kay, #363; Marine, #364; Marine Bouquet, #365; Mark Robert, #989; Marmaduke, #366; Maroon, #367; Martha Lou, #368; Martha Washington, #369; Marvin's Silver Girl, #692; Mary Lee, #370; Mary S, #371; Mary Sue, #372; May Basket, #703; May Day, #373; May Greer, #374; McFarland's Blue Warrior, #354; McFarland's Blue Warrior Supreme, #355; Me Too, #375; Melba, #693; Mentor Boy, AVS-48; Mi-Jo, #693; Milky Way, #376; Millie's Rose, #377; Mine Alone, #378; Minnetonka, #379; Miss Battle Creek, #380; Miss Cathy, #381; Miss Des Moines, #382; Miss Hammond, #383; Miss Harriett,

Are You Growing These Plants?

According to the International Code of Nomenclature, we may delete from our registration list, any cultivars ten years or older that are no longer being grown or used for hybridizing. Published below is a partial list of very early registrations that we would like to delete if they are no longer available. If you still grow any of these plants, please write and let me know so that they may be left as registered plants. Any plant not being grown, or used for hybridizing, will be considered obsolete and will be dropped from our next MVL. We have not included any plants with names that have historical value, such as the original ten, Tommie Lou, Joan Van Zele, etc. You have until June 30, 1988 to let us know about any name listed. If we receive no replies about specific registered plants by that date, we will assume they are no longer in circulation and remove them from our files. Send information to Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

#384; Miss Liberty, #385; Miss Lou, #786; Miss New York, #386; Miss Norfolk, #787; Miss Norwalk, #847; Miss Ontario, #387; Miss Springmaid, #389; Miss St. Louis, #390; Missouri Waltz, #388; Missy Kay, #704; Misty Blue, #391; Misty Pink, #393; Misty Pink, #753; Mohawk, #392; Mona Lisa, #811; Monaco Pink, #908; Moon Maid, #808; Moon Ripples, #394; Moondrift, #746; Moonglow, #393; Morning Girl, #395; Mr. Doctor, #895; Mrs. Abbott, #396; Mrs. Boles, AVS-48; Mrs. Doctor, #896; Mrs. Emery, #397; Mt. Hood, #398; Mulberry Girl, #399; Mutineer, #400; My Gardenia, #401; My Leba, #402;

My Love, #403; My Maryland, #961; My Queen, #768; My Sin, #990; Myrtle, AVS-48; Myrtle Radtke, #404.

N

Naomi's Afterglow, #1000; Naomi's Sno Bird, #1001; Naughty Marietta, #405; Navy Belle, #406; Navy Bouquet, #407; Navy Girl, #408; Navy Queen, #409; Nebraska Skies, #410; Niagara Dawn, #936; Niagara Mirror, #705; Niagara Skies, #706; Niagara Symphony, #937; Nile Queen, #411; Nod, #412; Norma, #986; Norseman Bouquet, #694; Norseman Supreme, #414; Northern Prize, #415; Nyla Jean, #416.

1987 Master Variety List Supplement

Changes and Corrections

*Mary A. Boland, Chairman
6415 Wilcox Court
Alexandria, VA 22310*

The 1987 Supplement to the Master Variety List (Nov. 1987, AVM) contained 1,014 cultivar descriptions — the largest Supplement to date to be printed by AVSA. There were, however, 31 that were listed incorrectly as unregistered plants. Please add the Registration # and Date to your 1987 Supplement:

ABILENE, #5950, 2/19/85
A LA LA, #5689, 2/18/84
BIG MAMA, #5971, 4/4/85
BIG TIME KATE, #5972, 4/4/85
BLUE ECLIPSE, #5951, 2/19/85
COLUMBIA, #5450, 8/20/83
CRYSTALLAIRE, #4295, 2/21/81
DALLAS, #5320, 5/7/83
DOOTHAN, #5321, 5/7/83
DUSTY BLUE, #5974, 4/4/85
ENDLESS LOVE, #5973, 4/4/85
FANTASY MIST #5454, 8/20/83
FANTASY ROYALE, #5455, 8/20/83
FESTIVAL, #5690, 2/18/84
FLASHY LOVETTA, #5975, 4/4/85
GEORGIA LOVER, #5976, 4/4/85
HURON, #5449, 8/20/83
I LOVE YOU, #5977, 8/20/83
JANA, #5953, 2/19/85
JUPITER, #5751, 7/24/84
KNOXVILLE, #5752, 7/24/84
LLOYD'S JO ANN, #4130, 11/19/80
LOVELY DIANE, #5978, 4/4/85
LUSCIOUS LOU, #5979, 4/4/85

MAUNA KEA, #5825, 9/28/84
PEACH STATE, #5980, 4/4/85
PURPLE LIGHTNING, #5981, 4/4/85
RASPBERRY ROYALE, #5831, 9/28/84
RASPBERRY SPRITE, #5557, 9/15/83
SATURN, #5753, 7/24/84
SUNSET MOON, #5982, 4/4/85
TIME BANDIT, #5983, 4/4/85
TRAVIS' LOVE, #5984, 4/4/85
VALLEY PURPLE, #5688, 2/18/84
VICTORIA, #5754, 7/24/84
VULCAN QUEEN, #5453, 8/20/83
WRANGLER'S EL DORADO, #6221, 5/20/86

The following are listed with the spelling that occurs in the Supplement. They are Registered as:
BURGANDY LACE - Registered as Burgundy Lace, #5952, 2/19/85
FIRERY TRAILS - Registered as Fiery Trail, #5892, 1/23/85
SHENANDOAH - Registered as Blue Shenandoah, #5562, 8/20/83
SKAGIT PIXIE TRAIL - Registered as Skagit Pixie Trails, #5658, 1/30/84

Correct the spelling of the following:
ALTAMOUNT to ALTAMONT
INTRIQUE to INTRIGUE

The Committee apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused you. If you have any questions or comments on the MVL or its Supplements, please send all inquiries to the MVL Committee, 6415 Wilcox Court, Alexandria, VA 22310.

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210

When God made the oyster, He guaranteed him absolute economic and social security. He built the oyster a house — a shell to protect him from his enemies. When the oyster is hungry, he simply opens his shell and food rushes into him.

But when God made the eagle, He said, "The blue sky is your limit. Go and build your home"; and the eagle built his home on the highest mountain crag, where storms threaten him every day. For food he flies through miles of rain, wind and snow. The eagle — not the oyster — is the symbol of America.

A person can become like the oyster, never leaving the security of his shell; but the truly dynamic person continues to expand his horizons and to accept the challenges of the unknown.

Together, we, like the eagle, can open new horizons.

—Unknown

We are opening new horizons by donating to our future AVSA home!

For the month of October, those affiliates qualifying (and requesting) the offer by AV Enterprises Press for Pauline Bartholomew's book, "Growing To Show," are: The Nite Bloomers AVS, Jacksonville, FL; Union County Chapter of AVSA, NJ and Metropolitan St. Louis AV Council, MO.

For the month of November, those affiliates qualifying (and requesting) the offer are: The Violetters, Denver, CO; West County AVS, MO; AVS of Lower Bucks County, PA; First AVS of Louisville, IN; Metropolitan AVS of Peoria, IL; Central Connecticut AVS; Twin Cities AVS, IL; Northern California Judges Council; Copper City AVS, NY; Mid-America AVS, MO and AVS of Denver, Chapter I, CO.

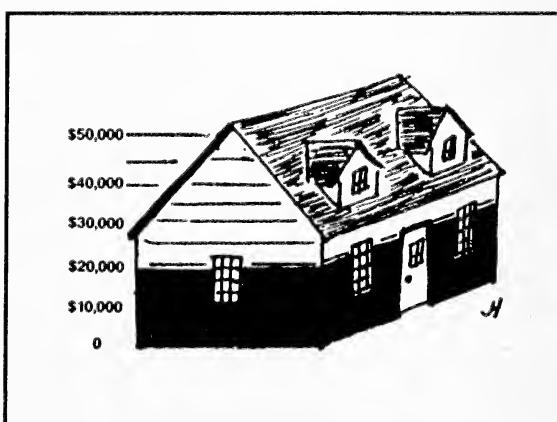
Several have qualified, but have not requested the book. Please read page 27 on the September-October 1987 AVM.

Please read Anne Tinari's generous offer to Building Fund contributors elsewhere in this issue.

October, 1987

Donations from September 25 through October 25
(Inadvertently omitted in the January report.)

First Austin AVS, TX in honor of AVSA President, Frances Young	\$300.00
Green County AVC, OK	10.00
AVS of Montrose, CA in lieu of speaker's fee to Ann Swift and Harry Matsakane	20.00
Nite Bloomers AVS, FL	25.00
First AVS of Dallas, TX	20.00
Copper City AVS, Rome, NY	50.00
Old Dominion AVS, No. VA	20.00
Metropolitan St. Louis AV Council, MO	20.00
First AVC of Weatherford, TX	15.00
Nutmeg State AVS, CT	25.00
Huntsville AVS, AL	20.00
Moonlight AVS, TX	10.00
Gypsy AVC, OH	25.00
Edison AVC, FL	10.00
Mrs. Joseph (Julie) Adams in lieu of speaker's fee received from Southport Women's Club, Fairfield, CT	50.00
Sho-Me AVC, MO	10.00
AVS of Staten Island, NY	10.00
Baton Rouge AVS, LA	50.00
West County AVC, MO	25.00
Ohio State AVS, OH	100.00



**Give to the Building Fund
and help AVSA.**

Hi Hopes Study Club, CO	10.00
Wonder AVC, MN	20.00
Twin Cities AVS, IL	32.00
Don L. Thomburg, CA	10.00
Hi Hopes AVC, St. Louis, MO	10.00
First AVS of Louisville, KY	25.00
White Mountain AVS, AZ	10.00
Louisiana Council of AV Judges	100.00
Central Arkansas AVS	25.00
AVS of Lower Bucks County, PA	40.00
<i>November, 1987</i>	
Donations from October 25 through November 25.	
Kimberly AVS, IN	\$10.00
Dixie Moonbeam Chapter AVS, Panama City, FL	15.00
AVS of San Francisco, CA	50.00
Metropolitan AVS, IL	25.00
Central Connecticut AVS	25.00
AVS of Philadelphia, PA in lieu of speaker's fee to Nancy Imhof	25.00
AVS of Philadelphia, PA from Hometown Fair	50.00
Sweet Water AVS, NY	10.00
Edmonton AVS, Alberta, Canada	25.00
Mrs. E. K. (Iris) Keating, CA	25.00
Don L. Thomburg, CA	10.00
AVS of Northern Illinois in lieu of judging expense for Susan Dublinski	5.70
Northern California Council of AV Judges	25.00
Wetumpka VC, AL in memory of Isabel Enslen	10.00
Bermuda AVS in memory of Nancy Thompson	200.00
Brazos Valley AVC, TX in memory of Pauline Jones	25.00
Barbara W. Richardson, CO	10.00
Columbia AVS, SC	10.00
Central Jersey AVS, NJ in lieu of traveling expense for speakers, Kay and Bill Lyons of PA	10.00
AVS of Hawaii	25.00
Bergen County AVS in lieu of speaker's fee to Janet Riemer	25.00
Mrs. Frank J. (Jean) Keil	5.00
AV Council of Florida	1,000.00
Bellflower AVS, CA	100.00
Thimble Island AVS of CT	25.00
Violets On The Bayou, LA	20.00
Laverne K. Burke, Washington, DC	250.00
San Marcos AVC, TX	25.00
Lakes and Hills AVS, FL	50.00
Mid-America AVS, MO	20.00
First AVS of Wichita Falls, TX	100.00
J. M. Walbrick, TX	100.00
Mary Walbrick, TX	50.00
AVSA Judges Council of So. CA	100.00
Livingston County and vicinity AVS, NY	10.00
AVC of Galveston, TX	10.00
Casper Bloomers AVC, WY	25.00
AVS of Denver, Chapter I, CO	20.00

Nell-Sue Tyson in lieu of speaker's fee for AVS of Denver, Chapter I, CO	5.00
Katherine W. Brago, CO	10.00
Harriette Poss in lieu of speaker's fee from Nite Bloomers, CA	30.00
Paumanok AVS, NY	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph F. Adams, CT in memory of Eugene Lloyd, NY	10.00

Tinaris Make Offer For Building Fund

Dear Members:

Inspired by the article on page 18 of the January issue of our magazine, I wish to throw my hat into the ring in an attempt to encourage building fund contributions.

I wish to offer a copy of my well-known cultural, historical book, *Our African Violet Heritage*, autographed and sent postpaid to the first 50 individual members, clubs or affiliates who will donate \$20.00 or more to the building fund.

Your donation should be sent directly to the Building Fund Chairman, Miss Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Avenue, Denver, CO 80210. She will record and acknowledge your donation and send me a notice of same. I shall promptly send you an original first edition, autographed copy of *Our African Violet Heritage*.

This valuable little book will not be reprinted and we are approaching the end of our stock on same. There seems to be a need among members and clubs to obtain literature reviewing early years of the growth of this phenomenal plant. The book gives a birds eye view with many pictures of the early years; many of the beautiful old cultivars that were developed are also shown. Also included is a brief history of their early development and the violet fever that was a part of the popularity that surrounded the early years.

Many questions on violet culture are asked and answered that still apply to our modern methods of violet culture. It makes an ideal gift to present your club library or any violet enthusiast.

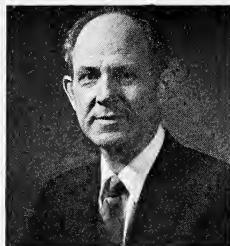
Please remember to include complete address of individual or club who is to receive this complimentary autographed copy.

Anne Tinari



Fredette's Crimson Ember

(Photo by Irene Fredette)



YOUR LIBRARY

L. T. Ozio, Jr.

1009 Ditch Avenue

Morgan City, LA 70380

The search for excellence and the desire to produce an enjoyable and educational slide program can be considered as the goal to which we in your AVSA Library all aspire. To attain this goal we need the cooperation of all our membership and especially those who order and show the slides to their members. And how is this accomplished? First of all, we need your comments and ideas. A comment sheet is included with each slide program and, without exception, the member ordering the program is faithful in expressing the real comments made by those viewing the program. We really appreciate the honesty of the comments and value the helpful suggestions made.

The only way we can improve our programs and at the same time offer programs of current interest is for you, the viewers and members, to give us your suggestions for future programs. Already we have evaluated several promising ideas for programs and hope to come up with slide programs answering the particular needs of our viewers and growers. If you feel that a special phase of African violet culture or use in designs would be of interest, send your suggestions to me. It will be carefully considered. And who knows? Your idea may prove to be an addition to our more popular programs. So let me hear from you!

Just a couple of reminders: To those of you in charge of ordering and returning slide programs we ask that you make a special effort to check the projector for any slide that may have been left in it. By so doing you are certain to return the program intact and assure no delay in the circulation of the program. Please continue to return properly wrapped slide programs to Bob Green, postpaid and insured for \$50.00 by FIRST CLASS MAIL. Check with your postal clerk to see that the correct postage is placed on the package.

The slides you send to J. R. (Sundown) Pittman to be included in the popular slide program he offers at the annual Saturday luncheon at the convention,

contribute to the success of the program. We suggest that, when you photograph your individual plants, you leave out ribbons, awards, or other detracting material from the picture. A simple, concise, and accurate description of all your plants should be included. Send as many slides as you wish but if you haven't already sent in your slides to Sundown, we ask that you don't delay any longer. What a great way to get your plants before the membership of AVSA! Surely you want your beautiful introductions to be included in this always enjoyable presentation.

Word from our friends in Texas, Bill and Paula Foster, Mary Ann Corrigan, and Martha Turner, indicates that a big Texas good time is planned as we all gather in Dallas when they host the 1988 AVSA Convention on April 10-17. If you haven't already made plans to attend we urge you to do so now and join us as we head to Dallas and "The Great Reunion in Texas." I look forward to seeing and greeting many of you there.

Dixie AVS Convention To Be Held In Atlanta

The Dixie African Violet Society will hold its 32nd Annual Convention in Atlanta, March 16 - 20, 1988, at the Radisson Inn and Conference Center, Howell Mill Road and I-75.

The theme of the convention is "Violets Cover Dixie Like The Dew." A show and sale will be open to the public 4 - 6 p.m. Friday, March 18, and 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, March 19.

The Dixie African Violet Society is a non-profit organization founded in 1956 as an association of persons with similar interest in the culture and care of African violets within an area not too vast for occasional meetings. The Society is affiliated with the African Violet Society of America, Inc.

For further information contact: Hugh Mackey, Chairman, 404-926-7986 or Jeanette Wallace, Publicity, 404-971-3170.

Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Brown
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Donations received from September 25, 1987 through November 25, 1987.

Beaumont AVS, TX

in memory of Mrs. Bea May,

mother of Lyndall Owens \$10.00

NYC AVS, Inc., NY 10.00

Garden Club of Seymour, CT

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for publishing our monthly newsletter	5.00
Mark Twain AVS, Elmira, NY	
in memory of Hattie Friedman	25.00
White Mountain AVS, Show Low, AZ	10.00
Zest of the West AVC, Ft. Collins, CO	15.00

Changes and Corrections To 1988 Convention Events

Changes to list on pages 43 and 44 of the January 1988 AVM in regard to the 1988 Dallas AVSA Convention are as follows, according to DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, as of January 15, 1988.

Move from Tuesday, April 12, 1988

to

Wednesday, April 13, 1988

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Commercial Sales area available for set up
10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Exhibitors may obtain an entry sheet & entry cards

Move from Wednesday, April 13, 1988

to

Thursday, April 14, 1988

7:30 a.m. - noon Judging School Lecture
2 - 3:30 p.m. Judging School Examination

Delete from Wednesday, April 13, 1988

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Commercial Sales Open



Carol's Violets
Carol Sotkiewicz
Toledo, Ohio

Darling
Blue Trail

Tiny Wood Trail - (Khoe) grown by Dottie Wilson, Bryan, Texas

(Photo by
Bud Wilson)



COMING EVENTS

MARCH 4 & 5 TEXAS — Spring Branch AVC of Houston's 10th show/sale, Fair Haven United Methodist Church, 1330 Gessner. Mar. 4, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 5, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Free admission. Mae Dennison, show chairman. For information: Louise Andrews, 713-774-1572.

MARCH 4 & 5 LOUISIANA — Top Choice AVS' show/sale, "The Magical Splendor of Violets," Pierremont Mall, 4801 Line Ave., Shreveport. Mar. 4, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 5, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Annette Westbrook, show chairman.

MARCH 4 - 6 FLORIDA — AVA Gardeners show/sale, Colonial Plaza Mall (Ivey's entrance). For more information contact: Alyce Droege, 305-767-0899.

MARCH 5 & 6 CALIFORNIA — San Diego Daytime AVS' show/sale, "Super Bowl of Violets," Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Rm. 101. Mar. 5, 1 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Beverly Decker, show chairman, 619-469-9975.

MARCH 5 & 6 ARIZONA — AVS of Tucson's 31st show/sale, "Jewels of the Desert," Park Mall Shopping Center, 5870 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson. Mar. 5, noon - 6 p.m.; Mar. 6, noon - 5 p.m. Free admission. Sue Sacco, show chairman.

MARCH 5 & 6 ALABAMA — Montgomery AVS with the cooperation of Capitol City AVS, will hold their 16th show/sale, "We Celebrate! 25 Years of African Violets," Southern Homes and Gardens, U.S. Hwy. 231 N, Montgomery. Mar. 5, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 6 1 - 4:30 p.m. No charge. Peg Phythyon, show chairman, 567-5433.

MARCH 5 & 6 LOUISIANA — Baton Rouge AVS' show/sale, "Violets Light Up My Life," Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge. Mar. 5, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 6, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. Nancy David, show chairman.

MARCH 12 FLORIDA — Central Florida AVS' show/sale, Beardall Senior Citizen Center, Delaney Ave. at Gore, Orlando. Noon to 5 p.m. Open to the public, free off-street parking.

MARCH 12 & 13 FLORIDA — Miracle Strip AVS' show/sale, "Flying Down To Rio," Panama City Mall, Hwy. 231 SR 77 and 23 St., Panama City. Mar. 12, 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 13, 12:30 - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited. Sharron Wright, show chairman.

MARCH 12 & 13 CALIFORNIA — San Joaquin AVS' show/sale, "A Rhapsody in Violets," the Mall at Weberstown (next to J.C. Penney) 4950 Pacific Ave. at March Lane, Stockton. Mar. 12, noon - 9 p.m.; Mar. 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. For more information call Susan Bastianelli, 209-931-5070 or Vera Parker, 209-478-1631.

MARCH 12 & 13 TEXAS — AVS of Beaumont's show, "Weatherwise With African Violets," Beaumont Garden Center, Tyrrell Park. Mar. 12, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 13, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited. For more information call 409-892-2855.

MARCH 12 & 13 LOUISIANA — Atchafalaya AVS' show, "Violets, a Dutch Treat," Morgan City Municipal Auditorium, Myrtle St. Mar. 12, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 13, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. George Ramirez, show chairman.

MARCH 12 & 13 CALIFORNIA — San Fernando Valley AVS' show/sale, "Violets on the Silver Screen," Panorama Mall,

Roscoe Blvd. and Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys. Mar. 12, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Mar. 13, noon - 6 p.m. Free admission. For information call Mary Blancher, 818-363-6222.

MARCH 12 & 13 FLORIDA — AVS of Pensacola's 12th show/sale, "Violets - Nature's Palette," Bayview Community Center, 20th Ave. and Lloyd St. Mar. 12, 3 - 8 p.m.; Mar. 13, noon - 5 p.m. Public welcome, free admission. Estelle Starr, show chairman, 904-456-2662.

MARCH 16 - 20 GEORGIA — Dixie AVS' 32nd annual convention, "Violets Cover Dixie Like the Dew," Radisson Inn and Conference Center, I-75 and Howell Mill Road, Atlanta. Show is free to the public, Mar. 18, 4 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 19, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hugh Mackey, convention chairman and Laura Walker, show chairman.

MARCH 18 & 19 CALIFORNIA — Pomona Valley AVS' show/sale, "Violets Go Prime Time," Church of the Brethren, Bonita at F St., LaVerne. Mar. 18, 1 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 19, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission, public welcome. For more information contact Marna Music, show chairman, 714-593-7618.

MARCH 18 & 19 TEXAS — Sweet Vi-O-Lets AVC's show/sale, Greenspoint Mall, I-45 North, Houston. Mar. 18, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 19, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission, public invited.

MARCH 18 & 19 NEW JERSEY — Union County AVS' show/sale, "Take A Chance on Violets," All Saints Episcopal Church, 559 Park Ave., Scotch Plains. Mar. 18, 6 - 9:30 p.m.; Mar. 19, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. Jill Fisher and Robert Hand cochairmen. For information call, 201-464-4417.

MARCH 18 & 19 OREGON — Portland AVS' show/sale, Milwaukee Senior/Community Center, North Clackamas Park, 5440 S.E. Kellog Creek Dr., Milwaukee. Mar. 18, 6 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 19, 1 - 7 p.m. Admission fee. Fran Skorepa, president, 503-760-8997; show chairman, Nancy Leisure, 503-292-0271.

MARCH 18 - 20 MINNESOTA — Minnesota AVS' 37th show, "Imagination with Violets," Har Mar Mall, County Road B and Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Mar. 18, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 19, 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Mar. 20, noon - 4 p.m. Dolores Harrington, show chairman; co-chairman, Palma Trapp.

MARCH 18 - 20 ILLINOIS — Rockford AV Fanciers, Inc.'s 5th show/sale, "African Violets - Out of This World," North Towne Mall, 3600 N. Main at Riverside, Rockford. Sale, Mar. 19 & 20. Show chairman, Lucille Losiewski.

MARCH 19 & 20 CALIFORNIA — San Mateo County AVS' show/sale, Howard Johnson Hotel, Redwood Room, 485 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City. Mar. 19, 2 - 7 p.m.; Mar. 20, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission.

MARCH 19 & 20 TEXAS — First Austin AVS' display/sale, Zilker Park Botanical Garden Center, Zilker Park. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. For additional information, call show chairman, Mrs. Ann Fontenot, 512-836-3495.

MARCH 19 & 20 KANSAS — Wichita AV Study Club's show/sale, "Spring Time Magic," Botanica, 701 Amidon, Wichita. Mar. 19, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 20, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Deanna Bumgardner, 371 S. Shefford, Wichita, KS 67209, show chair-

man.

MARCH 19 & 20 LOUISIANA — Alexandria AVS' show/sale, "Violets At The Crossroads," Bolton Avenue Community



Precious Pink wins big at the Northern California Council of AV Societies Conference & Show held recently.

(Photos by Hans Inpijn)



June Fallaw shows off her Precious Pink which won Best in Class, Best Semi Mini, Best Couple Pink, Best Variegated and Best in Show Tricolor Award at the Northern California Council's Conference & Show.

Center, 315 Bolton Ave., Alexandria. Mar. 19, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 20, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free of charge. For further information contact: Beverly Bullock, show chairman, (318) 442-2852 or Flora Nugent, president, (318) 640-4890.

MARCH 19 & 20 MISSISSIPPI — Hattiesburg AVC's show, "Simply Violets," Garden Center, 209 Hutchinson Ave., Hattiesburg. Both days, 1 - 5 p.m. Ms. Jane Wicht, show chairman. Free admission, public invited.

MARCH 19 & 20 WISCONSIN — Green Bay Area AVS' sale/display, "Marching In With Violets," Bay Park Square Mall, S. Oneida St., Green Bay. Mar. 19, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Mar. 20, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Pat Robinson, chairman, 414-499-3877.

MARCH 25 & 26 VIRGINIA — AVS of Richmond's show/sale, "40 Years Growing - Showing," Azalea Mall, Brook Rd. Mar. 25, 2 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 26, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sharon Long, chairman. For more information, 740-5322.

MARCH 25 & 26 VIRGINIA — Old Dominion AVS' 27th annual show/sale, "Stately Violets," Green Springs Horticultural Center, Annandale. Mar. 25, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Mar. 26, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission.

MARCH 25 & 26 LOUISIANA — Violets on the Bayou's show/sale, "An Easter Parade of Violets," Southland Mall, Houma. Both days, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Anaise LeBlanc, show chairman.

MARCH 25 - 27 TENNESSEE — Bluff City AVC's show, "It's Reigning Violets," Park Place Mall, Park and Ridgeway, Memphis. Mar. 25 & 26, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 1 - 6 p.m. George McDonald, show chairman.

MARCH 25 - 27 GEORGIA — Master's City AV and Gesneriad show, Augusta Mall, Augusta.

MARCH 26 MASSACHUSETTS — Moby Dick AVC's show/sale, "Adrift With Violets," Christ Church, 57 Main St., Swansea. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public welcome, admission free. John Cook, show chairman, 401-849-3151.

MARCH 26 & 27 CONNECTICUT — Windsor AVS' show/sale, "Dr. Seuss and Violets, Too!," Windsor Public Library, 323 Broad St., Windsor. Mar. 26, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 27, 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Public welcome, free admission.

MARCH 26 & 27 FLORIDA — Suncoast AVS' show/sale, "Violets at the Garden Wall," National Guard Armory, 3601 38th Ave. South, St. Petersburg. Mar. 26, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Sandra Williams, president and show chairman.

MARCH 26 & 27 LOUISIANA — Violets After Five AVS' show/sale, "Violets in Storybook Land," Baton Rouge Garden Center, Independence Park, Baton Rouge. Mar. 26, 2 - 5 p.m.; Mar. 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the public, free admission. For more information contact Jo Anne Hoover, (504) 687-8030.

MARCH 26 & 27 TEXAS — Centex Rainbow AVC's show/sale, "Violet Trail to Dallas," Conder Park Teen Center Bldg., Killeen. Mar. 26, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited. Show chairman, Barbara Butler.

MARCH 26 & 27 NEW MEXICO — Albuquerque AVC's 20th show/sale, Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas NE, Albuquerque. Mar. 26, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free to the public.

MARCH 26 & 27 CALIFORNIA — Orange County AVS' show/sale, "Violets On Your Easter Bonnet," Westminster Civic Center Complex, 8200 Westminster Ave., Westminster. Mar. 26, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Mar. 27, noon - 3 p.m. The show will be held in conjunction with the annual Spring Festival sponsored by the city of Westminster. Parking and admission are free. For additional information call Marna Striepens 818-964-4462 or Pat

Cohen 714-786-1076.

MARCH 26 & 27 ALABAMA — Tuscaloosa County AVC's show, "Violets, Our Heritage," McFarland Mall. Mar. 26, 1 - 9 p.m.; Mar. 27, 1 - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission.

MARCH 26 & 27 COLORADO — Rocky Mountain AV Council's 26th show/sale, "Violets Olé," Botanic Gardens, John C. Mitchell Hall, 1005 York St., Denver. Mar. 26, 1 - 4:30 p.m.; Mar. 27, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MARCH 27 & 28 NEW YORK — Long Island AVS' 34th annual show, "Violets Win An Oscar," Rockville Centre Recreation Center, 111 Oceanside Road, Rockville Centre. Mar. 27, 2 - 6 p.m.; Mar. 28, noon - 5 p.m. Dolores O'Sullivan and Betty Raskopf, show chairmen.

MARCH 30 CALIFORNIA — Town & Country AVS' show/sale to celebrate the centennial of the City of Redlands, Board of Education Room, 25 W. Lugonia Ave., Redlands. (Orange exit off I-10, corner of Orange and Lugonia Ave.) 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Two new hybrids specially named for the centennial will be on show: Granger Gardens' Redlands Pride and Hortense Pittman's Redlands Precious. Free admission, public invited. For more information call Eden M. Luntao, president, 714-784-1857.

APRIL 1 & 2 NORTH CAROLINA — Green Thumb AVS' show/sale, Tarrytown Mall, Rocky Mount, regular mall hours.

APRIL 8 & 9 NEBRASKA — Lincoln AVS' show/sale, East Park Plaza, Lincoln. Both days, regular store hours. Both old & new varieties for sale.

APRIL 8 & 9 MASSACHUSETTS — Merrimack Valley AVS of Lawrence's show/sale, "Violets in Technicolor," Grace Episcopal Church hall, Garden St., Lawrence. Apr. 8, 1 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 9, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free admission.

APRIL 8 & 9 FLORIDA — AVS of Fort Walton Beach's show/sale, "Violets Play Rodgers and Hammerstein," Santa Rosa Mall, Fort Walton Beach. Apr. 8, 2 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 9, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission free. Mildred Patrick, show chairman, 904-862-5058, assisted by Sharon O'Steen.

APRIL 8 & 9 NEW JERSEY — AVS of North Jersey's show/sale, "A Hit Parade Of Violets," St. John Lutheran Church, 810 Broad St., Clifton. Apr. 8, 3 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 9, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission, everyone welcome. Emilia Rykowski, show chairman.

APRIL 8 - 10 TORONTO, CANADA — Toronto Gesneriad Society's 10th birthday party/show/sale, "Come Share The Birthday Cake," Civic Garden Center. Don MacDonald, show chairman, 416-964-9305.

APRIL 9 & 10 ILLINOIS — Barrington Bloomers AVS' show/sale, "Hollywood and Violets," Chicago Botanic Gardens, Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Apr. 9, 12:30 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Nikki Collard, show chairman.

APRIL 9 & 10 LOUISIANA — Sundowners AVS' show/sale, "Violets — Seven Come Eleven — Years," Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd., Independence Park, Baton Rouge. Apr. 9, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Apr. 10, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. For additional information contact: Phyllis S. Harris, 5569 South Afton Pkwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (504) 926-0255.

APRIL 9 & 10 NEW YORK — Heritage AVS of Long Island's show, "Have Violets Will Travel," Christ Lutheran Church, 300 Hillside Dr. So., New Hyde Park. Apr. 9, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 10, 1 - 6 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Gert Buckley, chairman; Ann Lee, president.

APRIL 9 & 10 IOWA — The Evening AVC of Des Moines' show/sale, "Relax With Violets," Botanical Center, 909 E. River

Dr. Apr. 9, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Apr. 10, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Joan Watts, show chairman.

APRIL 15 & 16 ALABAMA — AVS of Birmingham and the Early Bird VC's 16th show, "Violet Magic," Botanical Gardens, Birmingham. Apr. 15, 2 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 16, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

APRIL 16 & 17 CONNECTICUT — Silvermine AVS' show/sale, "Fun With African Violets," St. Mary's R.C. Church Community Hall, 699 West Ave., Norwalk. Apr. 16, 2 - 5 p.m.; Apr. 17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission, door prizes. Jean Taylor and Lynn Wallach, cochairmen.

APRIL 16 & 17 NEW YORK — Copper City AVS of Rome's 33rd annual show/sale, "Communicating with Violets," Masonic Temple, 620 N. Washington St., Rome. Apr. 16, 2 - 7 p.m.; Apr. 17, noon - 5 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Hart, show chairmen. Public invited, donation.

APRIL 16 & 17 NEW YORK — Sweet Water AVS' show/sale, "I Remember Grandma's Violets," West Sayville Fire Dept., Montauk Highway, Sayville. Apr. 16, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 17, noon - 5 p.m. Eleanor Hull, show chairman.

APRIL 21 - 23 TEXAS — Alpha AVS of Dallas' clinic/sale, Big Town Mall, Interstate 20, Big Town Blvd., Mesquite. Apr. 21 & 22, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Apr. 23, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free parking, public invited. For more information call Grace Davis, 214-278-0389.

APRIL 22 - 24 GEORGIA — Classic City AVS' show, "Classic Violets Under a Classic Arch," Georgia Square Mall, Hwys. 78 & 29, Athens. Open to the public, Apr. 23, 1 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 24, 1 - 5 p.m. For further information contact: Hinton D. Christian, 110 Milledge Terrace Condo #1, Athens, GA 30606, 404-543-6622.

APRIL 22 - 24 TENNESSEE — Memphis AVS' show/sale, "Circus of Violets," Goldsmith Civic Garden Center. Apr. 22 & 23, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Apr. 24, 1 - 4:30 p.m. Free admission, public invited. Ann Shirley, show chairman; Iona Pair, president.



Cathy Cornibe's terrarium, "Up, Up and Away," won Best Design at the Nite Bloomers Carnival of Violets show in San Jose, CA. Cathy's entry also won Tricolor in Design, Best Terrarium and Best Container Garden.

APRIL 22 - 24 MINNESOTA — North Star AV Council's tenth anniversary show/sale, "Spring Magic," North Town Mall, University & Hwy. 10, Blaine. Mall hours. Lorraine Nelson, chairman.

APRIL 23 & 24 LOUISIANA — Jefferson AV Assn.'s show/sale, "Violet Majesty," Travelodge, 2240 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Kenner. Apr. 23, 1 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 24, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public is invited free of charge.

APRIL 23 & 24 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Springfield's show, "Violet Express," Springfield Mall, Baltimore Pike and Route 320, Springfield. Apr. 23, noon; Apr. 24, 5 p.m. Bettie Roth, Jack Girvin and Arlene Bjorke, show chairmen.

APRIL 23 & 24 NEW YORK — AVSA of Greater New York's 32nd annual show/sale, "Violets Sail the Seas," Administration Building, Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing. Apr. 23, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 24, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Rose & Joe Ghossn, show chairmen.

APRIL 23 & 24 NEW YORK — AVS of Rochester's show/sale, "Violets in the Castle," Garden Center of Rochester, 5 Castle Park, Rochester. (Off Reservoir near the corner of Mt. Hope Blvd.) Apr. 23, 2 - 6 p.m.; Apr. 24, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited. Pat Red Elk, show chairman. For information call 716-323-2524.

APRIL 23 & 24 CONNECTICUT — Thimble Islands AVS' show/sale, "Carousel of Violets," Branford Old Post Office, 1111 Main St., Branford. Apr. 23, 2 - 4 p.m.; Apr. 24, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 203-481-9455.

APRIL 23 & 24 NEW YORK — Hudson Highland AVS' show/sale, "Violets In Print," Bear Mountain Inn, Fort Montgomery. Apr. 23, noon - 6 p.m.; Apr. 24, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bruce Turnbull, show chairman.

APRIL 24 CALIFORNIA — Diablo Valley AV Grower's display/sale, Heather Farm Garden Center, 1540 Marchbanks Drive, Walnut Creek. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

APRIL 26 OHIO — AVS of Canton's exhibit/sale, Canton Garden Center. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission and parking.

APRIL 29 & 30 TEXAS — First AVS of San Antonio's show/sale, "Up, Up and Away with Violets," North Star Mall. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission free. Anne Nicholas, show chairman.

APRIL 29 & 30 NEW JERSEY — Central Jersey AVS' ninth show/sale, "Violets In The News," First United Methodist Church of Matawan, Atlantic Ave. and Church St., Aberdeen Township. Apr. 29, 3 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 30, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cecelia Winfield, show chairman.

APRIL 29 & 30 MASSACHUSETTS — Bay State AVS' show/sale, Waltham Field Station, 240 Beaver St., Waltham. Apr. 29, 2 - 8 p.m.; Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Olga MacLean, show chairman.

APRIL 29 & 30 NORTH CAROLINA — African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Charlotte's show/sale, Eastland Mall, Central Ave. and Sharon Amity, Charlotte. Apr. 29, noon - 9 p.m.; Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For information, Mrs. Q. Ted Ashley, 7543 Glencannon Dr., Charlotte 28212.

APRIL 29 & 30 TEXAS — First AVS of Dallas' clinic/sale, Richardson Square Mall, Plano and Beltline roads. Both days, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

APRIL 29 - MAY 1 WASHINGTON — Seattle AVS' display/sale, Totem Lake Mall, 12620 120th Ave. N.E., Kirkland. Apr. 29, 5 - 9 p.m.; Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; May 1, noon - 5 p.m. For more information contact: Donna Ferrill 353-0378; Eloise Gruenhagen 935-0743.

APRIL 30 CALIFORNIA — Burbank AVS' display/sale,

Olive Recreation Center, 1111 W. Olive Ave., Burbank, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission, public invited. Mary E. Hillman, president.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Lower Bucks County's 14th show/sale, "Violets 'R' Us," Oxford Valley Mall, Wanamaker's Court, Rt. 1, Langhorne. Apr. 30, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 1, noon - 6 p.m. Free admission. Joyce McMullen, show chairman.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 ILLINOIS — Twin Cities AVS' show, "Down Violet Lane," Miller Park Pavilion, Bloomington. Donna Willett, chairman.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 CONNECTICUT — Naugatonic AVS' show/sale, "Highways, Biways, and Violets," Boothe Memorial Park Hall, Main Street (Putney), Stratford. (Exit 53S off the Merritt Parkway. Apr. 30, 1 - 4 p.m.; May 1, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mrs. Albert J. Rourke, show chairman. Public invited, free admission. Door prizes awarded each day.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 NEW YORK — New York AVS' show/sale, Horticultural Society of New York, 128 W. 58th, New York City. Apr. 30, noon - 5 p.m.; May 1, 1 - 6 p.m. Donation. Stan Furman, show chairman; Mark Grigalunas, president.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 NEW YORK — AVS of Syracuse's 34th show/sale, "Violets In Toyland," Penn Can Shopping Mall, N. Syracuse, Rt. 81 north, exit 29N. Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 1, noon - 5 p.m. Mrs. Janet Fergerson, show chairman, 315-699-7774.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 WISCONSIN — Crosstown AV Club's show/sale, East Towne Mall, E. Washington Ave., near I90. Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; May 1, noon - 4 p.m. Kathleen Dodge, president.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Philadelphia's 29th show, "African Queen," Plymouth Meeting Mall, Germantown Pike and Hickory Road, Plymouth Meeting. Apr. 30, 1 - 9:30 p.m.; May 1, noon - 4:30 p.m. Enid Branson & Susan Hanna, co-chairmen.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 CALIFORNIA — Ventura County AVS' show/sale, "Feast Your Eyes On Violets," Centerpoint Mall, corner of Channel Islands Blvd. & Saviers Rd., Oxnard. Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; May 1, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Florence Naylor, show chairman. For more information call 1-800-541-5471.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 MISSOURI — Sho-Me AVC's sixth annual show/sale, "African Violets, American Style," Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Rebecca Poindexter, show chairman.

MAY 5 - 7 OHIO — Violets & Friends Club's first show/sale, "All That Glitters Isn't Gold - Some Of It Is Violets," Piqua East Mall, Route 36 & I-75, Piqua. May 5, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 6, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mrs. Carl Brown, show chairman; Mrs. Norman Bradney, president.

MAY 6 & 7 CALIFORNIA — AVS of South Bay's show, "African Violet Queens," Vallco Fashion Park, Hwy. 280 & Wolfe Rd., Cupertino. May 6, 2 - 9 p.m.; May 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Mrs. Irene Thomas, show chairman.

MAY 6 & 7 OHIO — Parmatown AVC's show/sale, "National Parks and Violets," Parmatown Mall, Ridge Rd. and Ridgewood Dr., Parma. May 6, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 7, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Ed Gohr, show chairman.

MAY 6 & 7 MARYLAND — Baltimore AVC's show/sale, "Grandma Grew Violets," Towson Market Place, Joppa Rd. & Putty Hill Ave., Towson. May 6, 1 - 9:30 p.m.; May 7, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Janet Haag & Charles Cohen, cochairmen.

MAY 6 & 7 WYOMING — Sheridan AVC's show/sale, "Sheridan County's Centennial For Violets," St. Peter's Episcopal Church Hall, Sheridan. May 6, 5 - 8 p.m.; May 7, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Vera Schonenbach, chairman.

MAY 6 - 8 KANSAS — Bright Petals AVS' show/sale, "Violets on the Santa Fe Trail," Holiday Inn Gold Room, 3017 W. 10th, Great Bend. May 6, 1 - 7 p.m.; May 7, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.; May 8, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Winnie Ashley, show chairman; Alvin Otte, president.

MAY 7 TEXAS — AV Study Club of Houston's exhibit/sale, Westwood Mall, intersection of the Southwest Freeway (Hwy. 59) and Bissonnet, Houston. Geri Goins, chairman.

MAY 7 NEBRASKA — Metropolitan AVS of Omaha's exhibit/sale, Southroads Mall, Hwy. 75, Bellevue. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MAY 7 CALIFORNIA — Granada Hills AVS' display/sale, The Town Hall Room, Balboa-Mission Shopping Center, 16916 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Granada Hills. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission.

MAY 7 GEORGIA — Chattahoochee Valley AVS' show/sale, Columbus Square Mall, Macon Rd., Columbus, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public invited. Polly Crutchfield, show chairman.

MAY 7 & 8 IOWA — Quad City AVS' show/sale, Duck Creek Plaza, Bettendorf. Public invited, free admission.

MAY 7 & 8 VIRGINIA — Tidewater AVS' sixth show/sale, "Around The World With Violets," Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Norfolk. Take airport exit off I-64 and follow signs to the gardens. May 7, 2:30 - 5 p.m.; May 8, noon - 4 p.m. Entrance to the gardens is \$2, show is free. For more information contact: Carol Van, show chairman, 314 Falmouth Turnig, Hampton, VA 23669 or 804-851-2543. Catherine A. Carter, president.

MAY 7 & 8 UTAH — AVS of Utah's show, "Once Upon A Violet," 1602 East 2100 South, Salt Lake City. May 7, 1:30 - 6 p.m.; May 8, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Betty Jacobsen, Ruthann Lloyd, show chairmen.

MAY 13 - 15 SOUTH CAROLINA — Flowntown VC of Summerville's show/sale, "Clowning Around With Violets," Northwoods Mall, Hwy. 52, North Charleston, regular mall hours, May 13 & 14, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 15, noon - 9 p.m. Free admission. Dee Short, show chairman.

MAY 14 & 15 MISSOURI — The Unpredictable's AVS' show/sale, "Springtime Violettine," Days Inn Motel, I-70 & 7 Hwy., Blue Springs. Sue Hill & Dee Low, cochairmen.

MAY 18 WASHINGTON — Longview AVC's show/sale, "Violets and Old Lace," Parks and Recreation Building, 2920 Douglas St., Longview. 1 - 4 p.m. Pat Smith, president.

MAY 28 & 29 CALIFORNIA — AVS of San Francisco's show/sale, "Violet Memories," San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Ave. and Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park. May 28, 2 - 5 p.m.; May 29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Gary R. Beck, chairman.

JUNE 11 & 12 MISSOURI — Metropolitan St. Louis AVS Council's 34th show/sale, "Violets Out of Africa," Floral Display Hall of the Ridgway Center, Missouri Botanical (Shaw's) Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis. Both days, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mrs. Ardath Miller, show chairman.

JUNE 24 & 25 GEORGIA — The Georgia AV Growers Club's first show, "Violets and Butterflies," Dublin Mall, Dublin, during mall hours. Joan Cumpston, president.

An Open Letter Regarding The Building Fund

266 Lenox Avenue
Oakland, CA 94610

Nell-Sue Tyson, Chairman, AVSA Building Fund
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210

Dear Friend,

I have been thinking of our AVSA Building Fund and have some thoughts I would like to share with you. If you feel they are worthy of publication in our AVSA Magazine, please send them along.

As I give more and more thought to our AVSA Building Fund and the rather languid condition in which it finds itself, I can't avoid feeling that such an ailment is not indicative of a grower and lover of African violets. African violet growers love their plants, and they also love and support the organization that makes growing and showing of their plants possible. We might ask ourselves: How can an African violet grower exist by himself? How can he find any meaning at all in this wonderful activity if he has not first gained, at least in a measure, the knowledge that he is but a small part of a great organization, part of a worldwide cause that brings him much personal satisfaction and which brings great joy to so many others? As I think on these things I become more and more convinced that I want to participate more fully in this opportunity to build our own AVSA home. I want to be a part of it.

I have taken a first step, though feeble, by sending in a couple of small contributions. I am retired and on a fixed income, but it is my intention to send a check every month to the Building Fund. Over the years I have come to learn that giving does not impoverish us, nor does withholding enrich us. There is a great deal more that all of us can do to bring to fruition the goal of having our own AVSA home.

African violet growers know something about the process of photosynthesis: the processes of a plant leaf that functions primarily in the manufacture of food and nutrition to the plant. African violet growers know that their plants feed through the leaves as well as through the roots. In the Bible, Rev. 22:2, we read: "...the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." As individual members of an African Violet Society, we are the "leaves." It is through us that our local Societies and the AVSA, Inc. (the nation) are fed and made whole and healthy. The leaf does not and can not exist alone, the branch does not thrive by itself, and the "nation," is not made strong, healthy, whole or fruitful unless the individual leaves are providing it with the necessary food and nutrient.

Let us get our act together; let us be a more fully committed leaf. Let us bring the leaves, the branches and the tree together into one stupendous whole! We have a way to go yet, but we can do it. Happy growing.

Sincerely,
Don L. Thornburg

Support the AVSA Booster Fund

Soil Requirements for African Violets

*Part 6 of "Research Soil Mixes for African Violets"
presented to Yolo Violeteers of Northern California
Heather Gladney, B.S. Plant Science UCD*

So far we have discussed the bulk materials that combine into potting mixes for our African violets, and the needs those mixes must meet: violets need a light, highly organic soil that retains both water and air at the same time. It must also hold minerals for growth without excessive salts which might damage sensitive roots, and it must preserve the right acid-base balance. It should not have soil-borne pests like nematodes, soil mealies, or larger insects which harm violets. Mixes containing peat moss often add some lime (or similar chemical) as a fine powder. Most peats and some barks are highly acid, of low pH; lime raises it into the proper zone. The flour-fine grinding gives more efficient supply of active ingredient. With an average peat or bark, common mix recipes will have a pH in roughly the neutral range; many are based on combinations of commercial mixes which are already neutralized. Well-composted materials like sawdusts and barks tend toward neutrality.

Montague Free asserts that our violets prefer a pH in the range of 6.5 to 6.9, slightly acid, where 7.0 is exactly neutral. But since pH is a measure of hydrogen ion amounts, each jump in pH either lower (more acid or sour) toward 1, is ten times more acid than the step before it was; so 4.0 is a thousand times more acid than 7.0 is, not merely three times more acid. The scale works in the same way above 7.0 in the basic (or alkali, or sweet) direction. To shift pH in the extreme ends of the range requires more chemicals than in the middle range.

Mix pH can change in time on its own as it decomposes, let alone being affected by plant growth depleting certain minerals and watering practices adding salts and fertilizers. Hard alkali water or salt-softened water will raise the pH beyond 8.0 (an intolerable level for violets) as well as adding lots of salts in time; peaty acid water will lower the pH to difficult levels and add acid salts like compounds of iron and aluminum. Leaching with rain or distilled water, or using liquid acid fertilizers will help counter such rises in pH. But for overly acid

water effects, frequent repotting is necessary; lime to counter acidity should be mixed into the potting soil. But any method of adjusting pH to suit violets, runs up against a property called reserve pH.

Mixes with a high CEC, or cation exchange capacity mentioned earlier in this series, hold a lot of ions bonded, but gradually available to plants. But they also absorb a lot more of pH-altering chemicals. High CEC mixes (like peat ones) require more lime to raise an acid pH to a correct level than low CEC mixes that need to be changed to the same pH degrees. Low CEC mixes like sandy, bark-based or sawdust mixes have lower buffering abilities; adding a little lime will change their pH instantly. This effect can be important when mixing large batches of soil. Substituting sawdust for peat in your regular mix, or vice versa, changes the amount of lime you must add. Testing pH after each small addition of lime is probably wisest. The reserve pH effect can be odd: peat or mixes with clay in them (high CEC) will absorb increments of lime to no apparent effect for awhile, then suddenly rise sharply in pH. Overdoing the lime acts like alkali watering — it supplies excessive calcium, which picks up chloride ions in water and dries out as salts, which damages roots in any large amounts.

But how does a grower test his mix for pH? Growth of good violets is the best sign of both good care and a good soil mix. But still, testing whenever a grower makes a large batch of mix to pot her main collection of violets is a good idea; experiments with new mix recipes, trying out new materials or suppliers of materials is another time to test. Testing can be done with litmus paper at the simplest level, with a collection of colored paper strips of varying pH ranges — least accurate but least expensive, and practical at home — or with liquid chemicals compared to color charts in soil test kits like Sudbury's in garden shops. Professional growers may prefer to invest in the most accurate of all, electronic pH meters. In one form, electrodes are placed in distilled water along with a sample of potting soil. The

soil ions conduct current through the water, which registers pH in the meter. They are fragile and expensive scientific instruments; the electrodes are kept in a salt solution normally. Whatever the method of testing, it is the only way to be sure of how pH ended up after blending peats and barks of varying pH, filling the reserve that absorbs lime without apparent effect, and using different neutralizing agents. Fertilizers mixed with potting soil or watered on later also affect pH; dolomite used for liming interacts significantly with the type of fertilizer chosen. Some fertilizers are more acid than others, and must be neutralized; some are acutely basic and should be avoided. This will be discussed in future sections. But a rough rule of thumb for kitchen-sink improvisation, adding .8 oz. of dolomite lime per cubic foot of mix will generally raise the pH of that mix 1/2 to 1 whole pH unit.

Lime sources:

—*gypsum* is calcium sulphate ground floury fine. It adds calcium without affecting the pH at all, unless it is already exceedingly acid, when it will bring it back toward neutral. This is an exception to the usual rule that calcium sources are basic in effect! Probably it should be considered as a micronutrient source for calcium.

—*dolomite limestone* is one-half calcium carbonate and one-half magnesium carbonate, finely ground. It has 12% magnesium (12% of its weight will be magnesium supply) in an available form. It neutralizes (or raises) an acid pH from below 7.0 more mildly than calcium carbonate, discussed later. Since it also supplies violets with magnesium (another needed micronutrient) it is a better choice for violets than simple lime.

—*lime* is calcium carbonate, actually ordinary limestone finely ground. Strong in its effects, the rule of thumb (.8 oz. per cubic foot of mix will raise its pH 1/2 to 1 degree) will change toward the higher 1 degree and up adjustment for the same amount. Must be well mixed in or it will have harsh effects.

Acid sources, for limey mixes or watering against alkali buildup:

—*vinegar* use 1 tsp. per gallon of water as a leaching method, depending on severity of problem. Also as regular countering agent to limey water, but this will make it salty though pH neutral.

—*aluminum and iron sulphates*, used for acidifying garden soils, can be added at the rate of .16 to .32 oz. per cubic foot of mix (mix well) or dissolve 1 oz.

into each 2 gallons of water on a more frequent basis. Growers must test how much and how quickly this method acts with their test kits.

—*sulfur* such as soil sulfur, finely ground. Mix .16 to .48 oz. per cubic foot of potting soil. It has a slow effect, and maximum pH reduction occurs in 6 to 8 weeks. Test pH until average need is determined.

Those interested in reading more about potting soils, pH, and liming or leaching, may refer to standard soil science textbook in agricultural college bookstores, like Hausenbuiller's *Soil Science*, Wm. Brown Publishers, Iowa, c. 1972, p. 243-294. Two other references helpful in this series have been Mastalerz's *The Greenhouse Environment*, John Wiley and Sons Inc., Santa Barbara CA, c. 1977, pages 341 through 396; and A.C. Bunt's *Modern Potting Composts*, Pennsylvania State University Press, University Park, PA, c. 1976. Also Montague Free, All About African Violets, Doubleday & Co. Inc., New York, NY, c. 1951, p. 49-50, and Melvin Robey, *African Violets, Queens of the Indoor Gardening Kingdom*, A.S. Barnes & Co. Inc., New York, NY, c. 1980, pages 86-87.

In Memory

Mrs. Elaine Sprague

Elaine Sprague of the Waukesha (WI) Violeteers died August 12, 1987. She held numerous offices in her local club and was active in many state shows. She also contributed her talents to the AVSA national convention held in Milwaukee.

Elaine gave many talks about violets to numerous groups and clubs in the area.

We will miss her.

—Mrs. Mae Mueller

Ada B. Calhoun

The Central California AVS lost one of its pioneer members when Ada B. Calhoun died January 3, 1988. A past president and tireless supporter of our Society, Ada had violet friends nationwide, due to her attendance at AVSA conventions.

For many years she prepared the educational exhibits at the CCAVS annual shows, and was always ready to "spread the violet message."

She will be missed by many.

—Sue Haffner

AVSA Affiliate Organizations

*Bill Foster, Affiliate Chairman
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, Texas 75150*

This list includes all AVSA Affiliated Chapters and their presidents as of December 31, 1987. The asterisk (*) denotes 100% AVSA members.

(Editor's Note: This is the current list of Affiliates in the AVSA office. If there are any changes, additions or deletions, please contact Nancy Lawrence, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704.)

INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIA

AFRICAN VIOLET ASSOCIATION, Mrs. Joy Shaw, 81 Farnell Ave., Carlingford, New South Wales 2118

AV-GESNERIAD SOCIETY OF NSW, John Hodges, P. O. Box 173, Homebush, Sidney NS 2140

AVGS OF CANBERRA, INC., Helen McMaster, Griffin Centre, Bunda St., Canberra City, ACT 2601

AVS OF AUSTRALIA, Mrs. Joan Bryden, 30 Lancaster St., East Bentleigh, Victoria 3165

AVS OF QUEENSLAND, Joan Youngberry, 64 Armadale St., St. Lucia 4067, Brisbane, Queensland

AVS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, Mrs. B. Jarmyn, 11 Thorngate Dr., Belair 5052

AVS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, Mrs. Jill Streek, 14 Eden St., Innaloo 6018

BUDERIM DISTRICT AVS, Stella Gilmore, 2 Kent Court, Buderim, Queensland

EARLY MORN AV GROUP, Dorothy Bullen, 83 Albion Rd., Ashburton, Victoria 3147

HUNTER VALLEY AVS, Lyn Summerville, 2 Malwood Ave., MacQuarie Hills, N.S.W. 2285

BERMUDA

***BERMUDA AVS**, Mrs. Ivy Woods, P. O. Box HM 972, Hamilton HMDX

SOMERS ISLES AVC, Mrs. Andrea Smith, P. O. Box HM 2467, Hamilton HMJX

CANADA

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Jean L. Stanford, Box 683, 68 Connaught Ave., Middletown, NS B0S 1P0

ASSOC. DES AMATEURS VIOLETTES AFR., Denis Cro-teau, 3055 Terrasse Abenaquis, Longueuil, Quebec J4M 2B6

AVC OF VANCOUVER, Frederick Thomas, #207-1850 Comox St., Vancouver, BC V6G 1R3

AVS OF GREATER MONTREAL, Charles Laws, 4331 Juleau St., Pierrefonds, Quebec H9H 2C8

***AVSA JUDGES COUNCIL OF ONTARIO**, Fred Staples, 2199 Haygate Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1L7

CAREFREE GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Mrs. Dietlind Stice, 56 Krivel Crescent, Regina, Sask S4R 5C5

CHARLOTTETOWN AVS, 202 Spring Park Rd., Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 3Y9

DELBROOK AVS, Mrs. Colleen Henderson, 5855 Falcon Rd., W. Vancouver, BC V7W 1W5

EDMONTON AVS, Mrs. Margaret V. Jarratt, 11736-37B Ave., Edmonton, Alberta T6J 0K4

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LAKESHORE AVS, Miss Sandra Lex, 70 Enfield Ave., Toronto, Ontario M8W 1T9

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Cape Town
TRANSVAAL AVS, Joan Halford, Union Farm, Box 760,
Pyramid

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1413, Lima 18 Peru

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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37064

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COVINGTON COUNTY AVS, Mrs. Floy Hassell, Rt. 6,
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Buckingham Pl., Birmingham 35243
*HEART OF DIXIE AVS, Judy Perry, 1212 Avondale Dr.,
Dothan 36301
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Florence 35630
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Killen 35645
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Birmingham 35205
TUSCALOOSA COUNTY AVC, Leroy Pate, Rt. 4 Box 160 F,
Gordo 35466
WETUMPKA VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Lou Maclare, 104
Pauline Circle, Wetumpka 36092

Alaska

*AURORA BOREALIS AVS, Lucy Moody, P. O. Box 370,
Chugiak 99567

Arizona

ARIZONA GESNERIAD-SAINTPAULIA SOCIETY, C.
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Carefree 85377
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85015

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Seneca, Tucson 85715

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85625

TEMPE AV CULTURE CLUB, Millie Smith, 3033 N. Hayden
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THE LITTLE GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Mrs. Sonja Wemke,
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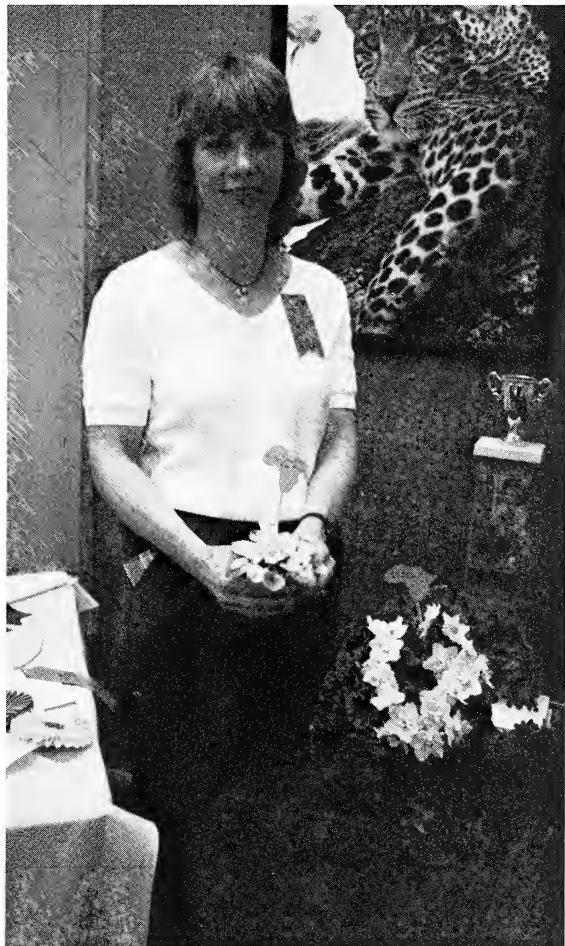
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Tucson 85712

WHITE MOUNTAIN AVS, Mrs. Rozella Stiarwalt, Rt. 2 Box
1532, Lakeside 85929

ARKANSAS

CENTRAL ARKANSAS AVS, Lois Harris, 5901 Stagecoach
Rd., Little Rock 72076

*GREEN THUMB AVC, Mrs. Ruby Pope, 1632 E. 5th Rd.,
Fayetteville 72701



Best in Show was won by JoAnna Behl at the
AVS of Rochester's (NY) recent show. JoAnna is
shown holding Best in Show Petite, Midget
BonBon and to her right is Best in Show Amazing
Grace.

L'ARK VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Modell Bunn, 101 Pine, Hamburg 71646

CALIFORNIA

ALUM ROCK AVS, Mrs. Florence Takeda, 1475 Mardon Dr., San Jose 95132

***AV COUNCIL OF SO. CALIF**, Frances King, 3327 28th St., San Diego 92104

AV HOBBYISTS OF SACRAMENTO, Minnie T. Mobley, 3340 M St., Sacramento 95816

***AV JUDGES COUNCIL OF NO. CALIF**, Anne Jantzen, 2725 Katrina Way, Mt. View 94040

AVS OF EAST BAY, Helene Moresi, 134 Pulido Rd., Danville 94526

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AVS OF MONTROSE, Luetta Kirker, 4845 Castle Rd., La Canada 91011

AVS OF PALO ALTO, Lillian Maylard, 802 Remington Dr., Sunnydale 94087

***AVS OF SAN FRANCISCO**, Gary R. Beck, 1155 Pine St. #4, San Francisco 94109

***AVS OF SOUTH BAY**, Mrs. Dorothy Gawienowski, 1140 N. Umberland Dr., Sunnyvale 94087

***AVSA JUDGES COUNCIL OF SO. CALIF.**, Frances C. King, 3327 28th St., San Diego 92104

BAKERSFIELD AVS, Shirley Farnsworth, 7804 Gallop Dr., Bakersfield 93308

BALBOA PARK AVS, Mrs. Barbara Wallace, 1075 Hayes Ave., San Diego 92103

BELLFLOWER AVS, Margaret Botsco, 3581 Courtside Circle, Huntington Beach 92649

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FOOTHILL AVS, Gini McCanne, 1420 Oxford Ave., Claremont 91711

GRANADA HILLS AVS, Mrs. Carolyn Taylor, 10952 Etiwanda Ave., Northridge 91326

GROW & STUDY GESNERIAD CLUB, Mama Striepens, 2225 Deep Grove Ave., Rowland Hgts 91748

HEARTLAND AVS, Kemary Crowder, 8862 Shaula Way, San Diego 92126

HUMBOLDT COUNTY AVS, Kristie Wilson, 2054 Rohner-ville Rd., Fortuna 95540

LOS ANGELES AVS, Sara Cina, 5235 1/2 Village Green, Los Angeles 90016

***NITE BLOOMERS AVC**, Doreen Hassan, 3633 Springbrook Ave., San Jose 95148

***NO. CALIF. COUNCIL OF AVS**, Barbara Elkin, 9749 Crestview Dr., Clear Lake 95422

ORANGE COUNTY AVS, Mama Striepens, 2225 Deep Grove Ave., Rowland Hgts 91748

PASADENA AVS, Helen Carpentier, 2358 Montrose, Montrose 91020

PINOLE AVS, Pauline Graham, 2675 Simas Ave., Pinole 94564

POMONA VALLEY AVS, Doris Ashby, 2250 7th St., La Verne 91750

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY AVS, Olive Pratt, 11604 Cielo Lane, Loma Linda 92354

SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AVS, Mrs. Beverly Decker, 7430 Stanford Ave., La Mesa 92041

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Mary Anne Blancher, 19536 Minnehaha St., Northridge 91326

***SAN JOAQUIN AVS**, Mrs. Mary Lloyd, 130 So. Orange, Lodi 95240

***SAN MATEO COUNTY AVS**, Enid Wood, 666 Knoll Dr., San Carlos 94070

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AVC, Mrs. Dorothy Simms, 395 S. Fair Oaks Ave., Sunnyvale 94086

SIERRA VIOLET LOVERS, Dorothy Cabibi, P. O. Box 481, Porterville 93258

SOUTH COAST AVS, Patsy A. Allsup, 24908 President Ave., Harbor City 90710

STANISLAUS COUNTY AVS, Susan Velohizen, 3348 Shoemaker Ave., Modesto 95351

***SUBURBAN AV FRIENDS**, Harriette Poss, 12 Kelton Cte. Ln., San Mateo 94403

THE GLENDALE AVS, Mr. Carroll McCarroll, 4100 Perlita, Los Angeles 90039

THOUSAND OAKS AVS, Floyd Lawson, 1100 W. Huntington Dr. #21, Arcadia 91006

TOWN AND COUNTRY AVS, Eden Luntao, 2563 Grambling Way, Riverside 92507

TUSTANA AVS, Mrs. Denzel Probert, 3213 Dakota St., Costa Mesa 92626

VENTURA COUNTY AVS, Marcia Shaver, 1187 Buckingham Dr., Thousand Oaks 91360

YOLO VIOLETEERS, Kathie Moore, Rt. 1 Box 775, Woodland 95695

Colorado

AVC OF GOLDEN, Jean Miller, 6661 Upham Dr., Arvada



Janet Haag took top honors with Old Dominion Sparkler in the Baltimore AVC show. Janet also received the purple rosette for 2nd best AVSA collection and the Potomic Council of AV Judges award for best semimini collection.

80003

CAPITAL CITY AVS, Mrs. Catherine Balliu, 20765 E. 44th Ave., Denver 80249

GATEWAY VIOLET CLUB, Tammy Schlender, 19618 E. Bails Pl., Aurora 80017

GLOXINIA GESNERIAD GROWERS, Mrs. Miriam Denham, 2945 3rd St., Boulder 80302

HAPPINESS IS AVS, Joan Sapp, 1502 6th Ave., Longmont 80501

*HI COUNTRY JUDGES WORKSHOP, Dorothy J. Roesch, 2575 S. Wadsworth Court, Denver 80227

*HI HOPES STUDY CLUB, Mrs. Mae Ellen Rogers, 5737 E. Floyd Ave., Denver 80222

LOVELAND SWEETHEART VIOLETS, Doris Eckholt, 617 W. 9th, Loveland 80537

PIKES PEAK AVS, Vera Hinshaw, 148 Judson, Colorado Springs 80911

PUEBLO AV CLUB, Mrs. Eilene Even, 825 W. Routt Ave., Pueblo 81004

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AV COUNCIL, Mrs. Frances B. Ratte, P. O. Box 382, Black Hawk 80422

*ROCKY POTTERS, Deborah S. Griffith, 1557 S. Sheridan Blvd., Lakewood 80226

*THE AVS OF DENVER CHAPTER I, Mary Ellen Shoun, 7390 W. 74th Place, Arvada 80003

THE VIOLETEERS, Mr. Cleon Morgan, 4351 S. Downing, Englewood 80110

ULTRA VIOLET CLUB, Carole Schiffrin, 7651 S. Ensenada Ct., Aurora 80016

ZEST OF THE WEST AVS, Mrs. Shirley Mitchell, 2433 Marquette St., Ft. Collins 80525

Connecticut

CENTRAL CONN. AVS, Mrs. Arthur England, 138 Pheasant Dr., Rocky Hill 06067

LOWER CONN. VALLEY AVS, Ruth Hatch, Rt. 148, Killingworth 06417

*NAUGATONIC AVS, Roger Wheeler, P. O. Box 263, Shelton 06484

NUTMEG STATE AVS, Louis Nagy, 180 Bethke Rd., Killingworth 06417

SILVERMINE AVS, Mrs. Jean Taylor, 23 Geneva Rd., Norwalk 06850

SPARKLING WATERS AVS, Barbara LeMere, 48 Center Rd. Circle, Orange 06477

THIMBLE ISLAND AVS, Madeline Clem, 5 Beechwood Rd., Branford 06405

*WINDSOR AVS, Mrs. Vivian Hiltz, 237 E. Robbins Ave., Newington 06111

Delaware

DELAWARE AVS, Mrs. Albert P. Pirone, 10 Kenleigh Arundel, Wilmington 19808

Florida

AFRICAN VIOLET ASSOC. OF GARDENERS, Bob Green, 997 Botany Ln., Rockledge 32955

*AV COUNCIL OF FLORIDA, Rita Hilton, 2295 W. Helen Circle, Bartow 33830

AVS OF FT. WALTON BEACH, Mrs. Mary Poett, 206 Davenport Rd., Ft. Walton Beach 32548

AVS OF JACKSONVILLE, Charles Hartman, 10274 Jolynn Rd., Jacksonville 32225

AVS OF MIAMI, Charles J. Jaros, 2621 NW 23rd Ct., Miami 33142

*AVS OF PENSACOLA, Mrs. Gayle Venticinque, 6673 Bellview Pines Rd., Pensacola 32506

*CENTRAL FLORIDA AVS, Mrs. James E. Sprayberry, 840 Linton Ave., Orlando 32809

DIXIE MOONBEAM AVS, Mrs. Corrine Daily, 321 Palo Alto Ave., Panama City 32401

*EDISON AVC, Pauline Coblenz, 300 Broadview Dr., Ft. Meyers 33905

FIRST LAKELAND AVS, Vernon Farnsworth, 496 S. Garden Dr., Lakeland 33813

GULF AVC, Eleanor Duerr, 1307 S.E. 27th Terrace, Cape Coral 33904

GULF COAST AVS, Robert E. Reilly, 2038 Cemetery Rd., Holiday 33590

HEART OF FLORIDA AVS, Evelyn L. Briggs, 284 Maureen Dr., Sanford 32771

LAKES & HILLS AVS, Mrs. Dorothy Sundquist, 107 Big Tree Drive, Fruitland Park 32731

MID-POLK AVS, Elaine Butterfield, 319 Granada Rd., Auburndale 33823

MIRACLE STRIP AVS, Mrs. Helen Peterson, Rt. 4 Box 694, Panama City 32405

SARASOTA AVS, Mrs. Philomena Rosenjack, 6409 Sun Eagle Ln., Bradenton 33507

SOUTH FLORIDA AVS, Phillip Iloo, 8580 S. W. 124th St., Miami 33156

*SUNCOAST AVS, Sandra Williams, 102 9th St. E., Tierra Verde 33715

SUNSHINE AVS, Madelyn Bacon, 964 Zacapa, Venice 33595

TALLAHASSEE NIGHT MAGIC, Lynwood McCauley, 2111 Lee Ave., Tallahassee 32312

TAMPA AVS, Mary Lou Harden, 910 W. Hillsboro, Seffner 33584

THE NITE BLOOMERS AVS, Mrs. Gwen Hayes, 2824 Oak Cove Lane, Jacksonville 32211

THE VIOLET PATCH, Jennifer Kellum, 2618 Flamingo Lane, Ft. Lauderdale 33312

TREASURE COAST AVS, Huddy Pailthorp, 2400 S. Ocean Dr., 4151, Ft. Pierce 34949

UPPER PINELLAS AVS, Ruth Charlton, 359 King Palm, Largo 34648

WALTON AVS, Mrs. Frances Statz, 203 E. Nelson Ave., DeFuniak Springs 32433

Georgia

AVC OF GREATER ATLANTA, Pierce Cumpton, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31093

AVS OF VALDOSTA, Mae Pope, 205 Tomlinson Dr., Valdosta 31601

CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY AVS, Betty Aponte, 1002 Woodburn Dr., Columbus 31907

CLASSIC CITY AVS, Lisa Smith, P. O. Box 6762, Athens 30604

FIRST SANTPAULIA SOC., Mrs. Blanche Woodward, 3763 Citation Dr., Decatur 30034

FLINT RIVER AVS, Elsie Dugan, 901 Society Ave., Albany 31701

GEORGIA AV GROWERS CLUB, Joan Cumpton, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31093

*GEORGIA AV JUDGES SOCIETY, Hugh Mackey, 299 Stockwood Dr., Woodstock 30188

GEORGIA STATE AV COUNCIL, Laura Walker, 562 Rue Montague, Stone Mountain 30083
HEART OF GEORGIA AVS, James O. Brantley, Rt. 1 Box 602-1, Lizella 31052
HIGH HOPES VC OF SOUTH ATLANTA, Mrs. Barbara Grant, 3435 Dodson Terrace, East Point 30344
***MASTER CITY AV & GESNERIAD SOCIETY**, Mrs. Mildred M. Wheatley, 2207 Breckenridge Ave., Augusta 30904
MIDDLE GEORGIA AVS, Bill Hamrick, 106 Hillridge, Warner Robins 31093
MILLEDGEVILLE AVC, Ruth H. Cranford, P. O. Box 5, Milledgeville 31061
TARA AVC, Colleen Hudson, 2261 Chambers Rd., Stockbridge 30281

Hawaii

AVS OF HAWAII, Miss Dee Ann Ling, 2862 Manoa Rd., Honolulu 96822

Idaho

MAGIC VALLEY SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Mrs. Ruth A. Hartman, 722 Green Acre Dr., Twin Falls 83301

Illinois

AV FANCIERS, INC., Florise M. Hogan, 1220 31st St., Rockford 61108
AVS OF NO. ILLINOIS, Mrs. Mildred Aske, 2702 N. Monticello, Chicago 60647
***BARRINGTON BLOOMERS**, Mrs. Joan Pugsley, 28693 Ravine Dr., Barrington 60010
EVENING BLOOMERS AVS, Linda Symmonds, 5250 N. Knoxville, Peoria 61614
EXHIBITORS AVS, Mrs. Iris Frazier, 6475 Galena Rd., Bristol 60512
FORT MASSAC AVS, Brenda Jenkins, Rt. 1, Grand Chain 62941
***GLENVIEW/NORTH SHORE AVS**, Barbara Goodsell, 429 Cherry Ln., Glenview 60025
ILLINOIS AVS, INC., Adelle Johnson, 4901 N. Ozanam Ave., Norridge 60656
LAKE SHORE AVS, Mrs. Janice Bruns, 1220 Stratford Lane, Hanover Park 60103
MARGARET SCOTT AVS, Mrs. Lois Fox, 308 Elmwood Dr., Champaign 61820
METROPOLITAN AVS OF PEORIA, Mr. Terry E. Duchien, 117 Lynn, Washington 61571
QUAD CITIES AVS, Maureen Klansek, 4112 33rd Ave., Moline 61265
***SAINTPAULIA SOCIETY**, Michelle Mize, 341 McBride Ave., Dupo 62339
SUBURBAN AV ENTHUSIASTS, Charles Koch, 14727 S. Kilpatrick Ave., Midlothian 60445
TWIN CITIES AVS, Martha Compton, 3003 E. Oakland Ave., Bloomington 61701
WEDGEWOOD AVC, Ralph Gifford, 3043 Partridge Ln., Belvidere 61008

Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS AVC, Mrs. Gyneth Bamford, 527 E. 52nd St., Indianapolis 46205
KIMBERLY AVC, Lucille Mider, 6048 Haverford Ave., Indianapolis 46220

PLYMOUTH AVC, Mary Batcho, 6340 Michigan Rd., Plymouth 46563
STEUBEN COUNTY AVS, Marie I. Drerup, Box 87, 109 Bridge St., Corunna 46730

Iowa

DES MOINES AVC, Mrs. Emmett L. Norton, 5718 Ovid Ave., Des Moines 50310

***EVENING AVC/DES MOINES**, Karen Ogden, 4691 Parkview Dr., Pleasant Hill 50317

SPENCER AVS, Loretta Iverson, 1015 N. Grand, Spencer 51301

Kansas

BOOTHILL SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Frances Gripe, 2317 Thompson, Dodge City 67801

***BRIGHT PETALS AVC**, Alvin Otte, 3218 25th, Great Bend 67530

HAPPY TIMES AVS, Elsie Perry, 320 Paramenter, Columbus 66725

LAWRENCE AVC, Laurie Karr, 1900 W. 31st., Lot T-11, Lawrence 66046

MANHATTAN AVS, Mrs. Doris Hofman, 3507 Musil Dr., Manhattan 66502

***WICHITA AV STUDY CLUB**, Mrs. Donna Breen, 6913 Newberry Circle, Wichita 67226

Kentucky

FIRST AVS OF LOUISVILLE, Mrs. Jean Ballintyn, 3207 Julian Dr., New Albany, IN 47150

Louisiana

ALEXANDRIA AVS, Mrs. Flora Nugent, 4203 Rigolette Rd., Pineville 71360

***ATCHAFALAYA VS OF AMERICA**, Martha Dyson, 409 Snead St., Berwick 70342

***BATON ROUGE AVS**, Bernice Adams, 3582 Aletha Dr., Baton Rouge 70814

FIRST LONGVIEW AVS, Mrs. Frieda Baker, P. O. Box 116, Gloster 71030

***FIRST NEW ORLEANS AVS**, Lori Vidrine, 2157 N. Lexington, Gretna 70053

***JEFFERSON AV ASSN.**, Mrs. Dorothy Benge, 5900 Wheeler Dr., Metairie 70005

LAFAYETTE AVC, Jim Parker, 209 Vennard Ave., Lafayette 70501

***LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Genelle G. Armstrong, 1313 Gardenia Dr., Metairie 70005

***RAYNE AVS**, Leora Peres, P. O. Box 412, Rayne 70578

***SHREVEPORT AVS**, Mrs. Alton Slayton, 9406 Palmetto Lane, Shreveport 71118

***SUNDOWNERS AVS**, Anita D'Antoni, 4436 W. Brookstown Dr., Baton Rouge 70805

***TOP CHOICE AVS**, Mr. Bobby Morgan, Rt. 3 Box 458, Plain Dealing 71064

***VIOLETS AFTER FIVE**, Sallie Barlow, 30418 Fairway View Dr., Denham Springs 70726

VIOLETS ON THE BAYOU, Anaise LeBlanc, Rt. 2 Box 101-A, Napoleonville 70390

Maryland

BALTIMORE AVC, Mrs. Janet Haag, 524 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212

*POTOMAC COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES, Marie Burns, 8624 DeLegge Rd., Baltimore 21237

Massachusetts

*ALL SEASONS AVC, Mrs. Sylvia R. Feldman, 11 Hilldale Rd., Ashland 01721

BAY STATE AVS, Mr. Bertrand Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River 02722

FRIENDLY AVC, Mrs. J. Addison MacLean, 175 Mill St., Abington 02351

MERRIMACK VALLEY AVS, Margaret Proposki, 58 Exeter St., Lawrence 01843

MOBY DICK AVC, John Cook, 28 Minot St., Falmouth 02540

NORTH SHORE AVS, Charles M. Dow, 9 Sherwood Rd., Melrose 02176

PATRIOTS AVS, Kathy Innis, 8 Maddison Lane, Lynnfield 01940

THE QUANNAPOWITT AVC, Alice M. Courage, 33 Essex St., Wakefield 01880

WACHUSETT AVS, Mrs. Lois Roy, 40 Coombs Ave. Ext., Orange 01364

Michigan

AVC OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS, Miriam K. Greene, 4127 W. Saxony Dr., SE, Grand Rapids 49508

BORDER CITIES AVC, Sheila Weiss, 6328 University Pl., Detroit 48224

MICHIGAN STATE AVS, Ron Brenton, 30840 Went Worth, Livonia 48154

MID MICHIGAN AVS, Lori Dietz, 2020 140th Ave., Dorr 49323

*NORTH OAKLAND AVC, Carole J. Smith, 6160 Old Orchard, Birmingham 48010

Minnesota

AVS OF MINNESOTA, Kenneth Rein, 1492 N. Hamline Ave., St. Paul 55108

DULUTH AVS, Mrs. Grace Novak, 4411 McCulloch St., Duluth 55804

FALCON HEIGHTS HILOA AVS, Mrs. Monroe Trapp, 1224 W. Hwy. 36, St. Paul 55113

NORTH STAR AV COUNCIL, Lorraine Nelson, 2430 Douglas Dr. N, Golden Valley 55422

ST. CLOUD AREA AVC, Barbara Wood, 1017 Kilian Blvd., St. Cloud 56301

*THE VIKING VIOLETTES, Mrs. Shirley Hultin, 6150 Starlight Blvd. N.E., Minneapolis 55432

WONDER AVC, Mrs. Austa Clark, 3537 W. Fuller St., Minneapolis 55410

Mississippi

*CHIMNEYVILLE AVS, Mrs. Dorothy Screws, 1425 Woodcrest Dr., Jackson 39211

HATTIESBURG AVC, Mr. Ricky Winstead, 320 S. 20th Ave., Hattiesburg 39401

Missouri

AMETHYST AVC, Mrs. Homer R. Blanton, 622 Riverside Dr., St. Charles 63303

*AVS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, Gene Loveland, Rt. 1 Box 414L, Grain Valley 64029

*COUNTRY SIDE AVS, Doris L. Brown, Rt. 2 Box 196, Oak Groves 64075

*FLEUR DE LIS AVC, Mrs. Dorothy L. Lynch, 1107 Grenadier, Ballwin 63021

GATEWAY AVC, Mrs. Marcia Jacobs, 1990 Winter Haven Dr., Imperial 63052

HEART OF MISSOURI AVS, Dorothy Anderson, 1016 Maplewood Dr., Columbia 65203

HI HOPES AVC, Mrs. Joseph A. Weisbrod, 829 Hi Crest Dr., St. Louis 63125

*INNER CITY AVS, Barbara Jacobs-Fisher, 5119 Longhorn Trail, Florissant 63033

*LE CHATEAU AVC, Mrs. H. L. Holt, 1128 Linden Ave., St. Louis 63117

M K O DYN-A-MITE AVS, Mona Donnell, 306 Ballard, Carl Junction 64834

METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS AV COUNCIL, Mrs. Lavera Eaklor, 245 Brackleigh Ln., Florissant 63031

MID AMERICA AVS, Janet Wickell, 400 N. Madison, Raymore 64083

*NIGHTSHADE AVC, Mrs. Elmer Loyet, 3458 Montana, St. Louis 63118

*NORMANDY AVC, Mrs. Donna A. Bland, 66 Chartley Lane, Bridgeton 63044

*NORTHWEST AVC, Mrs. Patricia Corzine, 11 Queen Ann Dr., Hazelwood 63042

SHO-ME AVC, Mrs. Kitty Julian, 700 Locust, Pleasant Hill 64080



Dixie Melodies was the theme for the Hattiesburg AVC at their recent show. Pictured with her AVSA first place collection is Mrs. Bobbie Herring with plants, Autumn Honey, Carnival and Fisherman's Paradise. Autumn Honey also took best in show.

SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER OF AVS, Helen Bellinger, 1240 S. Estate, Springfield 65804
***ST. LOUIS AV JUDGES COUNCIL**, Joan Aubuchon, 7330 Leona St., St. Louis 63116
***THE CAVALIER AVS**, Beverly Gibson, 7004 Nottingham Ave., St. Louis 63119
***THE PIED PIPERS CLUB**, Mildred Borsch, 1415 Ross Ave., St. Louis 63146
***UNPREDICTABLE AVC**, Dennis Stevens, 10420 Crystal, Kansas City 64134
***WEST COUNTY AVS**, Mrs. Lois A. Grothe, 509 Ranch Dr., Manchester 63011

Montana

BILLINGS BLOOMERS AVS, Mrs. Joann Levine, 2608 Wyoming Ave., Billings 59102
TREASURE STATE FIRST AVS, Sharon Powell, 514 8th Ave. S, Lewistown 59457

Nebraska

HAPPY HOURS VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Duane Phillips, 730 Diamond St., Lyons 68038
LINCOLN AVS, Mrs. Eldean Kechely, 1021 Coachman Dr., Lincoln 68510
METROPOLITAN AVS, Jerry Fay, 5405 No. 61 St., Omaha 68104
***MISSOURI VALLEY AV COUNCIL**, Joyce Stork, 320 W. Eagle, Arlington 68002
T & C AVS, Mildred Matejka, Rt. 1 Box 53, Dorchester 68343

Nevada

CARSON CITY AVC, Marilou De Felice, 3342 Sommerset Way, Carson City 89701
RENO-SPARKS AVS, Carol J. Mark, 2460 11th St., Sparks 89431
VEGAS VALLEY AVS, Pearl Hoffenblum, #15 Tropicana Pk., 300 E. Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas 89109

New Hampshire

TWIN STATE AVS, Mrs. Kathy Stickney, R. R. 2 Box 217, Oak Ridge Road, West Lebanon 03784

New Jersey

AV CLUB OF BURLINGTON COUNTY, Mrs. Janet Sheaffer, 19 Grayson Circle, Willingboro 08046
AV CLUB OF TRENTON, Hilda Vandermeer, 36 Fogarty Dr., Trenton 08619
AVS OF NORTH JERSEY, Mrs. Emilia Rykowski, 105 Stanley St., Clifton 07013
BERGEN COUNTY AVS, Fred Hill, 16 Banta Pl., Bergenfield 07621
***CENTRAL JERSEY AVS**, Charlotte Lynn, 620 Remsen Ave., N. Brunswick 08902
***NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Barbara Howells, 18 Packanack Lake Rd., Wayne 07470
SEASHORE AVS OF S. JERSEY, Mrs. Eugene P. Lyness, 215 W. Seaspray Rd., Ocean City 08226
SEAVIEW AVS, Lew Whitaker, 25 Pine Needle St., Howell 07731
***TRISTATE AV COUNCIL**, Flora Sernen, 74 Kino Blvd., Trenton 08619
***UNION COUNTY CHAPTER AVS**, Mrs. Jill Fischer, 59 Riverbend Road, Berkeley Heights 07922

New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE AVC, Mrs. Delmar L. Longmire, 8600 Summer Ave. NE, Albuquerque 87112
PASA TIEMPO AVC, Margaret Browne, 389 El Conejo, Los Alamos 87544

New York

AVS OF ALBANY, Iona Lynch, 273 Pawling Ave., Troy 12180
AVS OF GREATER NEW YORK, Susan Kokoszczynski, 64-31 60th Rd., Maspeth 11378
AVS OF ROCHESTER, Alice Dowd, 1167 Calkins Rd., Rochester 14623
AVS OF STATEN ISLAND, Margaret Scheller, 58 Wolcott Ave., Staten Island 10312
AVS OF SYRACUSE, Gus Nordone, 305 W. Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse 13207
AVS OF WESTERN NEW YORK, Paul Kroll, 4325 Two Rod Rd., E. Aurora 14052
CAPITAL DISTRICT AVS, Mary Maria, 3278 Old State Rd., Schenectady 12303
COPPER CITY AVS, Mrs. Alice Onderkirk, 117 W. Linden St., Rome 13440
HERITAGE AVS OF LONG ISLAND, Ann Lee, 16 Tinder Lane, Levittown 11756
HUDSON HIGHLANDS AVS, Bruce Turnbull, 9 Blackwell St., Cornwall-On-The-Hudson 12520
JAMESTOWN AVC, Mrs. Jean Olson, 215 Camp St., Jamestown 14701
LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND VICINITY AVS, Gina Miliken, 7027 Rush, Lima Rd., Honeoye Falls 14472
LONG ISLAND AVS, Gertrude Buckley, 1299 Chelsea Rd., Wantagh 11793
MARK TWAIN AVS, Hazel Everett, 1059 Pennsylvania Ave., Elmira 10904
***METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Jane Weber, 50 Belknap Dr., Northport 11768
MOHAWK VALLEY AVS, John G. Peck, 716 Clifton Park Center Rd., Clifton Park 12065
NASSAU AVS, Mrs. Ellie Beglin, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach 11561
***NEW YORK CITY AVS**, Mark Grigalunas, P. O. Box 885, Times Square Station, New York 10036
NEW YORK STATE AVS, Gloria Rutmayer, 2 Hampton St., Hauppauge 11788
***NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Jane P. Hiltz, 1615 Anchor Lane, Southold 11971
NIAGARA FRONTIER AVS, James H. Smith, 1126 Ferry Ave., Niagara Falls 14301
NORTH STAR AVS, Joyce Reller, Secretary, 8 Diana Hill, Huntington 11743
***PAUMANOK AVS**, Marilyn Heinrich, 7 Ellsworth Place, E. Northport 11731
***PUTNAM AVS**, Helene M. Diener, 36 N. Main St., Brewster 10509
RIVERSIDE B&P WOMEN'S AVS, Dorothy Hinz, 540 W. 122nd St., Apt. 51, New York 10027
SWEET WATER AVS, William H. Paauwe, P. O. Box 8, Hauppauge 11788
VIOLET HOBBYIST SOCIETY, Mrs. Norman Fuekrod, 28 Morningside Dr., Binghamton 13905

North Carolina

AV/GESNERIAD SOCIETY OF CHARLOTTE, Eva Harp,
7511 Middlebury Place, Charlotte 28212
FIRST GOLDSBORO AVS, Frances L. Deans, 109 Longview
Dr., Goldsboro 27530
GREEN THUMB AVS, Tom Batts, Box 2, Arbor Ln., Rocky
Mount 27801

North Dakota

TOWN & COUNTRY AVC, Valeria McCahan, 904 16th Ave.
SW, Minot 58701

Ohio

*AVS OF CANTON, Mrs. Nancy Hill, 34 Cherry Dr., North
Canton 44720
*CINCINNATI AVS, Marge Burson, 1664 Yellowglen Dr.,
Cincinnati 45255
COLUMBUS AVS, Mrs. Edwin Miller, 1771 Kermit Ave.,
Columbus 43207
FIRST AVSC OF ASHTABULA, Mrs. Milard Whitman, 1853
E. 45th St., Ashtabula 44004
FRIENDLY VIOLETS AVS, Carolyn Cooper, 735 Wiltshire
Rd., Columbus 43204
GYPSY AVC, Ona Barnhart, 6565 Rt. 320, New Paris 45347
OHIO STATE AVS, Linda Neumann, 11620 Mapleridge Dr., N.
Roynton 44133
PARMATOWN AVC, Velma Carpenter, 3113 Akins, N. Roy-
nton 44133
*SPRINGFIELD AVC, Betty Bartley, 3920 Monterey Ave.,
Springfield 45504
TOWN & COUNTRY AVS, Mrs. Anthony Morabito, 7075
Brightwood Dr., Painesville 44077
TREATY TOWN AVS, Edith Peters, 1229 Northmoor Dr.,
Greenville 45331
TRI-CITY AVS, Cheryl Lichtenberg, 10895 N. Lena Palestine
Rd., Conover 45317
*VIOLETS & FRIENDS CLUB, Mrs. Norman Bradney, 1104
Anderson, Piqua 45356

Oklahoma

AVS OF GREATER TULSA, Patricia Sutton, 1707 S. 77 E
Ave., Tulsa 74112
*GREEN COUNTRY AV STUDY CLUB, Mrs. Silas
Bumham, 1220 E. 27 Place, Tulsa 74114
INDIAN CAPITAL AVS OF MUSKOGEE, Fem Hildinger,
Rt. 2 Box 385 C, Muskogee 74403
LAWTON AVS, Virginia McComas, 7703 Stonegate Place,
Lawton 73505

Oregon

PORLTAND AVS, Frances Skorepa, 13657 SE Bush, Portland
97236

Pennsylvania

*AVS OF LOWER BUCKS COUNTY, Betty Callahan, 6
Pennsylvania Ave., Fairless Hills 19030
AVS OF PHILADELPHIA, Margaret Cass, 920 Andorra Rd.,
Lafayette Hill 19444
AVS OF SPRINGFIELD, Betty Girvin, 1109 Putnam Blvd.,
Wallingford 19086
*KEYSTONE AVS, Mrs. Gladys Souque, Rep., 4356 Penn St.,
Philadelphia 19124
STATE COLLEGE AVS, Roberta M. Hale, 1650 Cherry Hill

Rd. South, State College 16803

Rhode Island

RHODE ISLAND AVS, Linda Raymond, 70 Shaw St., Rum-
ford 02916

South Carolina

COLUMBIA AVS, Mrs. W. W. Evett, Rt. 2 Box 322, Chapin
29036
FIRST AVS OF SPARTANBURG, Martha Young, 660 Staf-
ford Ave., Spartanburg 29302
FLOWERTOWN VIOLET CLUB, Benjamin Overholser,
104 Jefferson Ln., Ladson 29456
GREENVILLE AVS, Betty Chiles, 301 Yorkshire Dr.,
Greenville 29615
NORTH CHARLESTON 1ST AVS, Helen B. McDaniel, 4751
Spruce St., No. Charleston 29406
*PEE DEE AVS, Mrs. D. T. Trifiletti, 1169 Pickney Ave.,
Florence 29501

South Dakota

LAKE CITY AVC, Joyce Selchert, Rt. 1 Box 58, Hazel 57242
SO-DAK VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Martha Hegdahl, R. R. 1,
Madison 57042

Tennessee

BLUFF CITY AVC, Charles Phillips, 3028 Dumbarton,
Memphis 38128



Lynn Wallach won Best in Show for Pinkaboo at a recent Silvermine (CT) AVS' show, Violets at the Circus. She also won Best in Show Miniature with Thumbles.

MEMPHIS AVS, Mrs. Iona Pair, 2022 Higbee St., Memphis 38104
MID-SOUTH AVS, Craig Lahren, 1203 Dorothy Place, Memphis 38104
NASHVILLE AVS, Lanova McCluskey, 5275 Lebanon Rd., Old Hickory 37138
TENNESSEE VALLEY AVC, Jane McNeely, 5635 Magazine Rd., Knoxville 37920

Texas

ABILENE AVS, Marylu Megginson, 649 Westview, Abilene 79603
***ALPHA AVS OF DALLAS**, Suzanne Roberts, 5739 Marview, Dallas 75227
AV CLUB OF GALVESTON, Althea Grossman, 2214 72nd, Galveston 77550
AV CULTURE CLUB, Rose Bartlett, 4208 Everglade, Pt. Arthur 77642
***AV STUDY CLUB OF HOUSTON**, Paul Downs, 4318 Dallas, Houston 77023
AVS OF BEAUMONT, Mrs. Floyd Miller, 950 Jasmine, Beaumont 77706
***AVS OF BROWNWOOD**, Mae McWilliams, Box 1084, Brady 76825
AVS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, Ruth Goeke, Rt. 1 Box 73, Brenham 77833
BRAZOS VALLEY AVC, Linda Ray, Rt. 1 Box 244, College Station 77840
***CEN-TEX RAINBOW AVC**, Mrs. Gayle King, Rt. 3 Box 112, Killeen 76541
***CENTRAL TEXAS JUDGES COUNCIL**, Meredith Hall, 922 E. 14th St., Houston 77009
CONCHO VALLEY AVS, Edna Moore, 1020 N. Adams, San Angelo 76901
***CORPUS CHRISTI AVS**, Glenda K. Ehrlich, 5909 Pebble Springs, Corpus Christi 78414
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***FIRST AVS OF DALLAS**, Mary Janson, 3920 Savannah Dr., Garland 75041
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Irish Ice

(Photos by Paul Sorano)

Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses, Paul & Sidney Sorano

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Alive and Well & Living in Africa

Joan Halford

P.O. Box 760, Pyramid 0120

Transvaal, Rep. of S. Africa

Happily, this is a favorable report to all of you — more than half of the *Saintpaulia* species are flourishing and blooming very well here in sunny South Africa. In less than a year from now, I hope to have all of them.

My interest in this genus was set alight in 1981-1982, triggered off by my studying for my first students judges examination. The challenge of being able to pronounce and spell the names of all of the species as well as other gesneriads was thrilling.

In extensive traveling around the southern part of the African continent, I look at every single African violet I can lay my eyes on. So far I have only found what I believe to be two plants of this genus. Researching through 15 years of AVSA magazines, which I continually index, co-relating all articles,

pictures and growth peculiarities, I am convinced that these two are *S. ionantha* and *S. obicularis*.

Sylva Mathers' article in the AVM May/June 1987 tells us that the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources are determined to protect these species in Kenya. We do hope that they are very successful in their undertaking. Many times over the past 15 years I have flown over this region, and even landed, in transit, at Nairobi en route to United Kingdom or AVSA conventions; but though we both live on the same continent, we are truly thousands and thousands of miles apart. I have written to Sylva and hope to hear from her in due course.

How many of you will recall the hilarious incident just prior to the convention in St. Louis in 1977? The late Neva Anderson had been a tower of strength to me in my early violet days, and I was only too happy to try and help her find maps of the regions where the species were found; these maps were to be the focal point in the showroom. After four months of waiting and not one step further in my search, the manager of the map supply shop, on being asked for the umpteenth time where they were, shocked me rigid when he replied, "Lady, they are coming from St. Louis, Missouri, United States of America." This was always a little joke between us, and still today, I cherish a newspaper cutting from Neva who related the incident to the St. Louis press.

Our 1988 October show theme is going to be "Out of Africa - Violets" and it should prove to be interesting and educational, the best so far, as I hope to have the majority of my species in bloom. Should any AVM reader have any, preferably color, photos of the species that they would lend me, or send copies of — I would be very grateful, and would happily refund all costs involved, without delay.

In conclusion, we should, as Sylva says, be very ambitious in this preservation for posterity and proud to be able to grow our lovely hybrids — ancestors of these endangered species. I know that I am, are you?

**Dallas In '88
Is Gonna Be Great
AVSA Convention
April 10-17**

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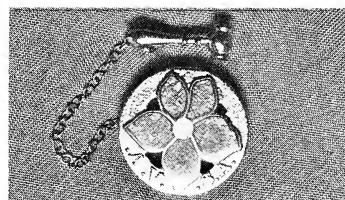
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D - 221
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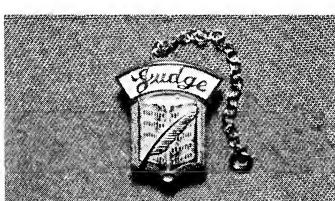
E - 204
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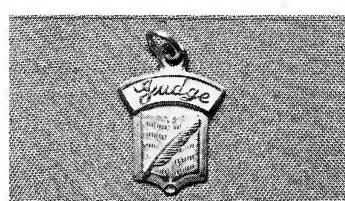
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The Language of the Gavel

By Ann Richardson

Did you who own AVSA pins with a gavel know that there is a language of the gavel? The angle of the gavel tells a story, as follows:

President-elect:



(as in use — rapping for order)

Past-President:



worn down, as at rest.

Some of the clubs in the south present their President-elect with the pin and gavel immediately after election so that she may wear her pin showing that she is President-elect and also during her presidency.



Fantasy Splendor

Granger Gardens
Medina, Ohio

(Photos by E. H. Peck III)

Coral Glo



The Fine Art of Violetry

Tips and Techniques for Growing, Showing and Sharing, Part I of II

*Lynda J. Grybko
75 Arnold Road
Delham, MA 01002*

Before you begin this year's worth of activities, take a minute to analyze *your own* particular interest in African violets. Do you want to try to grow THE IDEAL SHOW PLANT (and are you willing to commit the time involved over the period of a year to maintain a vigilant watch over a *flowerless* plant to achieve the spectacular end result)? Would you prefer to grow just for your own fun, enjoying the bloom year-round, and show whatever by chance is "showable" when show-time comes 'round? Would you like to try a bit both?

It Is Important That You Know What You Want To Do!

While many very "showy" plants can be achieved without disbudding and vigilant attention (a tribute to the versatility of the African violet), the truly spectacular specimens which leave us all shaking our heads in disbelief that anyone can ever grow *these* are not produced accidentally, but are the product of methodical attention. They are work, but they also provide a much more rigorous learning experience than those which just "happen" by themselves. If for no other reason than to learn more about what makes violets thrive, you might want to try growing a few IDEAL SHOW PLANTS!

Once you know your own intentions and interests, you need to decide if the plants you already own can be groomed to satisfy you or if you need additions to your collection. If you are growing some plants for SHOW plants (and I will use capitals to designate those plants which we will pamper and primp into the IDEAL), there are many "tried and true" plants in every size, type and color from which to choose and which exhibit less of a tendency to curl, flop, sucker and do all the nasty things a proper SHOW plant is not allowed to do! You would do well, particularly if you are an inexperienced SHOW grower, to try a few of these. Ask a seasoned SHOW grower for some names. Also take into consideration that older plants (over 1-2 years) tend to come

around to SHOW quality more slowly as a rule than fresh young plants — the reason many SHOW growers purchase new plants each spring in anticipation of showing them the following spring. You may want to try grooming a bit of an assortment — some old, some new, some SHOW, some fun. Another helpful hint for those with an interest in showing is to analyze last year's show schedule, fitting your favorite violets into the appropriate categories in anticipation of next year's show. Categories do not change much, as a rule, from one year to the next, and this may indicate to you that you have too many plants in one category and need to find some to fit into another.¹

After you have analyzed your *interests*, your *inventory* and your *intentions*, it is time to ...

Get Ready...Get Set...Grow!!

Much of the following information will be for Standard African Violets (those who achieve over 8" in diameter when full grown). Minis (6" max. diameter - showable only in 2-1/2" pots or less, as a rule of thumb) and semiminis (8" max. diameter - showable usually in 2-1/2" pots also, although occasionally a 3" can be used for a trailer), and "Small Standards" (also known as Compact Standards), will need appropriate alterations in pot size to accommodate their miniaturized stature; their grow habits and care will be more fully addressed later.

Your next year's SHOW plants will need to be purchased from a reputable source as healthy, good-sized (e.g., about 4-6" diameter) starts, or reduced to that size from your own older stock, removing all the older outside leaves (which you can pot up for more plantlets next year if you like) and if very root bound in its pot, removing some old soil and rootball. Pot up the new or old in fresh soil in a 4" pot (usually). Insert a wick if you wick-water. Remove blossoms and buds and keep gently moist (with not too much fertilizer, please) until you see signs of growth, indicating that your plant has adjusted satisfactorily

to its new home and is happy. At that point you may step up fertilizing and increase lights if you wish. PLEASE NOTE: Most SHOW plants enjoy lush growth during the spring months until the weather becomes hot. They then tend to stand still, disliking the extreme heat as much as you and I do! Many growers who do not practice total environmental control (i.e., grow in the cellar with *totally* artificial heat and lights) find that their plants do better if they cut back on their lights (if plants are under lights) to 10-12 hours/day and cut back on their fertilizer. This prevents a tendency toward "leggy" growth during the summer in many plants. ADEQUATE VENTILATION is very important to violets, particularly during muggy spring and summer weather, to prevent mildew and rotting leaves.

SHOW plants should be disbudded and have suckers removed (except on Trailers) as a *routine* when you water! At some time during the growing cycle (preferably in late November or early December), it is wise to allow ONE flower stalk to emerge and come into bloom on each plant. Put a removable label on your pot (and note...only *green* pots - preferably "squatty" with rolled rims - are allowed in the shows, and no labels may be attached to the pot at show time). On the label, indicate when you first stopped disbudding and when the blossom finally opened. Each plant will be *different!* You will need this information to guide you to the appropriate time to stop disbudding just before showtime. Note: You do not need to allow *all* the blossom stalks to emerge during this test ... one is sufficient and will still allow your plant to maintain its lush foliage growth. Foliage development — most lush in the spring — slows down measurably when your violet is allowed to come into full bloom.

Routine pest control, fertilization, mildew control, types of potting soil and methods of watering are as individual as the violets and their growers. No attempt will be made here to discuss these except to say one thing ... if whatever you are doing is working for you, be *very cautious* about altering a successful routine just because someone else does it differently. If you wish to try something different, try it on only a few plants and institute changes gradually. What works for them may be a DISASTER for you!

Many SHOW growers (and it might be safe to say "most") put "collars" on their standard show plants when they reach 8" (approximately) in diameter. Collars keep the foliage from drooping over the pot

rim. Droopy leaves do not obtain maximum light and may turn an unsightly shade lighter than their "younger brothers/sisters"; they also tend to crack and break more easily when in contact with the pot rim or may rot off if they contact mineral salts which sometimes accumulate on the soil surface and pot rim. Another advantage of collars: they force you to space your plants properly, not allowing one to contact another. Violets do not like to encroach upon their neighbors and will twist leaves to avoid contact with the leaves of another violet.

Because violets have fuzzy leaves, most will need a good bath at sometime during their growing year. It is not a bad idea to test each plant *early* in the growing cycle to see how it responds to a bath in tepid water. *Some* plants (particularly variegates) show leaf spots and discoloration no matter how carefully they are washed (and even dried!). Most plants, however, if washed with a fine shower (a sink sprayer is great) of tepid water (and even a little dish liquid if dust is stubborn) and dried away from direct sun and chilling breezes, will glow happily. Note: Blossoms *do not like* a bath! Many SHOW growers give their plants a final bath after they stop disbudding, but before blooming begins.

A word of caution regarding pests: ISOLATE all new plants (of any kind!) for a month or two before bringing them near your violets. This will allow you ample time to observe pests or problems. ALSO: Most "violeters" are lovers of flowers and plants in general ... and many of us love to work outside in our flower gardens or bring cut flowers into the house (or other houseplants outside for the summer ... violets, by the way, do NOT like this). DO NOT GO IN TO ADMIRE YOUR VIOLETS AFTER WORKING OUTSIDE! Change your clothes (and shoes!) and wash your hands or all exposed skin parts (feet, arms) carefully! A shower is best. Your lovely cut flowers and flower gardens (and vegetable gardens ... and lawn ... and ...) harbor many pests that do NOT need to come to visit your violets! TAKE CARE!!! Occasionally, pests will come into your home through your window screens. Most pests, however, are brought in by US in one way or another.

After successfully "summering" your fledgling SHOW plants, you will need, in the fall, to take stock of their growth. You may need, at this time, to reanalyze your SHOW hopefuls, repotting or replacing those who "summered" very poorly. It is not

too late at this point to start a show plant for the coming spring, although it will probably not achieve the spectacular size that some do when grown for a full year. Still, it can make a very respectable showing when started in the fall. While your plants will not show a great deal of growth in the fall, they usually will look "happier," showing more leaf luster and vitality now that the summer heat has subsided. Maintain a regular routine of mild fertilizing, disbudding and suckering. Remove leaves that are not contributing to the growth or beautification of the plant (i.e., lower, rotting leaves or badly broken and marred leaves). Leaves can be gently manipulated to "fill in" gaps left by broken leaves. This technique is best demonstrated rather than explained.

Remember that "spring," for most plants, actually begins in late December! The days begin to lengthen then, just as the snow begins to fall here in New England, and somehow our violets know that spring is on its way! Long before you see signs of spring outdoors, you will begin to see it in your violets. Watch closely. Your plants will tell you when they are starting their period of most vigorous growth. At that time, in late December and early January, you will want to assist them by beginning to increase your lights (first to 12 hours, then later - in early March, perhaps, to 14 hours) and increasing your fertilization to support the lush new growth. If you haven't already "timed" the blooming sequence for your plant, now is a good time to do it, but don't spoil your show bloom by letting more than one stalk come up, and don't wait beyond November or December to let your plants do this, or the information will come too late to be helpful. Remember that for a show in late April (or the Bay State African Violet Society show the first week in May), you will need to stop disbudding most of your violets by mid-February (8-10 weeks prior to show). Some singles bloom in less time than 8 weeks and go by equally as quickly, but many double blossoms take 10 to 12 weeks to come into peak bloom and hold their bloom for many weeks.

At about the time of your last disbudding, you will need to take a critical look at your plants. Have they developed a "neck" due to a year's worth of leaf removal? (They will need to have soil added to their pot or be repotted deeper into their pot.) Are they in the correct size pot (with a diameter no more than one-third the diameter of the plant)? Are they sym-

metrical, or do you need to remove a few leaves or does some repositioning of leaves needed to achieve this? For trailers, do they have at least three growing tips off the main plant? Do they need a good shampoo? (You can do the latter in a few weeks, before the bud stalks are taller than the leaves, if you would prefer to wash them as close to the show time as possible.) Make sure your plants are not too crowded and keep an eye out for pests and spring's worst enemy - mildew. AND LET THEM GROW!!

What a beautiful array you will have as the show date approaches — a testimony to a year's worth of TLC. Maintain your vigilance against suckers — checking for these and doing any last-minute grooming (such as gently brushing dirt or dust off leaves with a soft brush — a man's shaving brush is great, as are very soft paint brushes for the hard-to-reach places) just before the show itself. Get a copy of the show schedule; classify those plants you plan to bring. (Sometimes entry cards may be obtained prior to the show. You can do your classifications directly on these. If not available, just bring your show schedule and your list of plant names and classifications with you and making out the entry cards will be a snap at the entry table).

You may want to reposition a few blossoms as they emerge before the show. (Some plants with lush foliage need a bit of help to get the blossoms on top of the leaves!) Do this with care! It is very easy to break off bud stalks, but even easier to mar lovely blossoms. White blossoms particularly do not like to be "touched by human hands!" For whatever reason, they will often develop brown edges when touched. It is best to manipulate white bloom *before* the buds open, if possible, or if afterwards, use a pencil or paintbrush end to do this. Also note that violets bloom in two distinct patterns (and some in not so distinct patterns) — the "crown," where the blossoms emerge somewhat horizontally and form a crown around the most central leaves, the blossoms oftentimes actually lying on the middle row(s) of leaves; and the "bouquet," where the blossoms emerge very much vertically and form a large bouquet above the center of the plant. Other than helping blossoms to emerge above the leaves themselves, do not try to alter the plant's bloom pattern (i.e., making a bouquet out of a crown).

*Categorizing or classifying your plants when you purchase them, or if not then, when you begin to grow them for show or exhibit, will be very helpful come show time. Each plant's classification is determined by consulting the African Violet

Society of America's (AVSA's) Master Variety List (published every five years or so) and its annual supplements. It is said that there are 40,000 varieties of African violets. Many varieties have similar names and descriptions, so looking up your plants can be a bit of a challenge and sometimes, somewhat time-consuming ... both things you (and the Classifications Chairman) will NOT need come time to enter your plants in the show. Also, consulting the Master Variety List for names and descriptions early in the growing year can provide you with valuable information if, by

chance, your plant is mis-labeled or is not growing "true to variety" — an important feature in a show plant. It is most frustrating indeed to produce a year's worth of "pampered SHOW plant," lovely and in full bloom, only to be told that it is unjudgable because it is not growing "true to variety." Spare yourself these last minute problems. LOOK YOUR PLANTS UP EARLY.

This author uses the following system of 3 x 5" cards, which are informative and helpful:

Std.-V
Variety Name:
Hybridizer:
Registration # & Date:
M.V. List Description (verbatim):
(Description of my plant if different from MVL description)
Purchased (date/source):
SHOW plant comments:

For quick reference, this author puts a code in the card's upper right hand corner indicating whether the plant is a Std (standard) or Mini, or Semimini, (or Min-T = mini-trailer; Std-T, or Semi-T); whether its foliage is R (regular) or V (variegated). Although I file my cards alphabetically by variety name, when it comes time to classify for the show, cards can be easily rearranged into the above categories. You can then, for the most part, classify your own plants prior to bringing them to the show and completely avoid the *most frustrating and time consuming part of show set-up - classifications.*

Louisiana Judges Visit Tommie Lou

*Dot Benge
5900 Wheeler Drive, Metairie, LA 70003*

On April 25, 1987, four LACO (Louisiana Council) judges left for our sister state of Mississippi to do what we love best — judge an African violet show. We had been invited by the Hattiesburg African Violet Society to come and do our thing.

Members Dot Benge, Audrey and Wynne Voorhees, and Margaret Waguespack left early in the morning to arrive on time. Wynne did the driving with skill and care, and conversation along the way was dominated by our favorite plant.

When we arrived at the Hattiesburg Garden Center, Celia Dazet and Barbara Sisk (better known as Cookie) met us at the door. Celia was to judge with us, along with Dr. Charles Sledge of Jackson, MS.

Cookie had been invited as a special guest. One glance in the showroom told us why — there were so many of her beautiful hybrids among the entries.

After coffee, doughnuts, fellowship and first dibs on sale plants, we entered the showroom to do what we had been called to do. The overall view was lovely; but then have you ever seen one that wasn't?

As we began our jobs, several varieties caught our violet eyes. Luckily, the nearby clerks were willing to check the sale room for us and set aside our choices for later purchase. Everyone wanted Teo's Delight, which turned out to be a Tommie Lou Oden hybrid.

The theme of the show was "Dixie Melodies" and

it was well carried out. The Best in Show was Autumn Honey and the runner-up was Carnival, but the highlight of the entire experience was the opportunity to meet and be with Tommie Lou, the woman who introduced the first variegated with what has become standard African violet language - Tommie Lou foliage.

So that each of us could go home with Teo's Delight, we visited Tommie's greenhouses (Teo, by the way, is another of Tommie Lou's nicknames). Tommie took us on a tour and told us many wonderful violet stories. She talked of violet greats — both plants and people. She showed us the very spot where the first variegated sport of White Pride came up.

This gracious woman is truly a delight. Her ability to lead her club in the ways of AVSA is remarkable.

As we completed our selections from the greenhouses, we gathered under the lovely old oak trees and discussed our favorite plant even further.

With new memories of the "Flowers of Friendship" to add to our collections, we headed for home after a very, very satisfying violet day.

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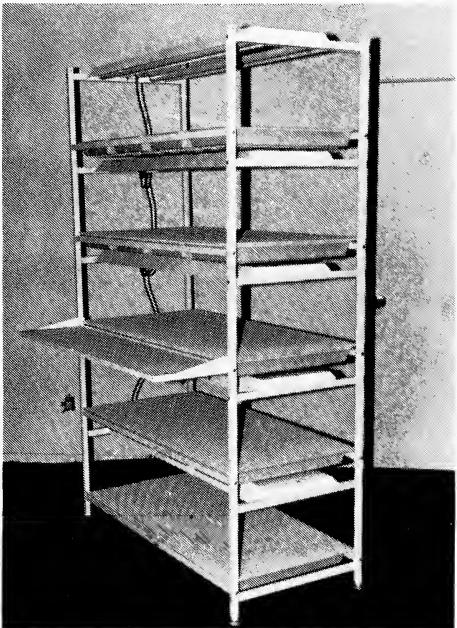
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2-1/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.80	1.50	2.75	5.00	22.00
2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.90	1.65	3.00	5.50	27.00
3"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.00	2.30	4.00	7.50	34.65
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.15	2.75	5.10	9.50	43.45
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.45	3.20	6.00	11.25	49.50
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.00	4.70	6.70	13.00	61.60
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6"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.85	12.65	23.10	106.70
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Charcoal	No. 4 Coarse	40 oz. 4.00
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Vermiculite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts. 3.50
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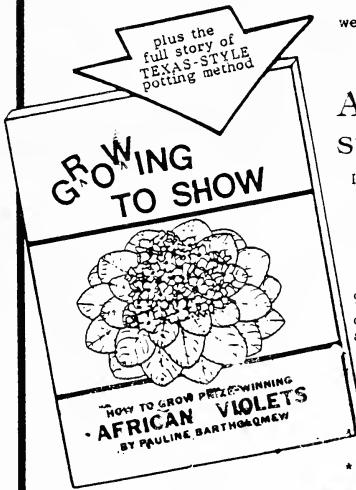
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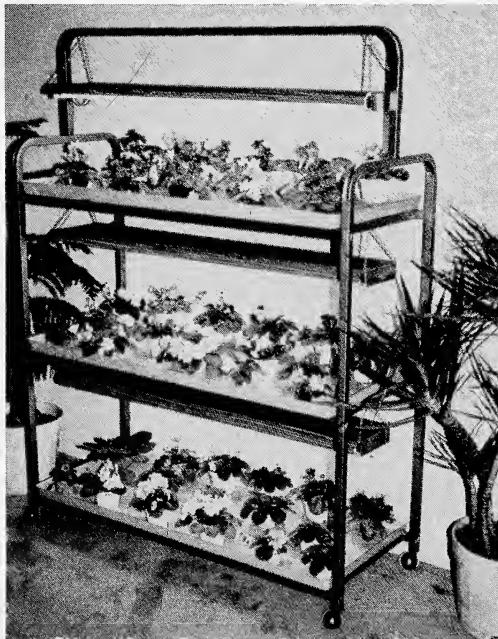
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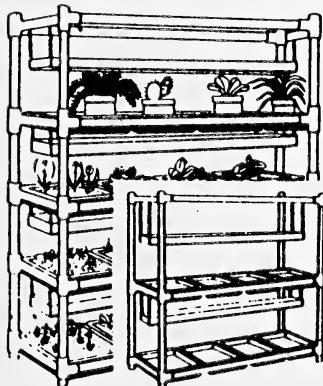
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B416 R	4	81	51	23	16-22" x 12"	4 - 19"	175.00
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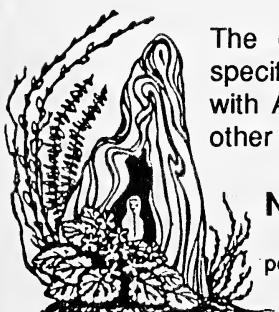
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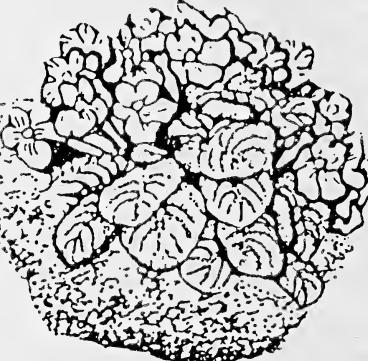
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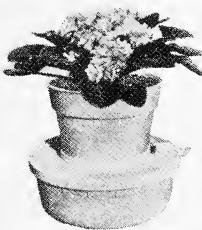
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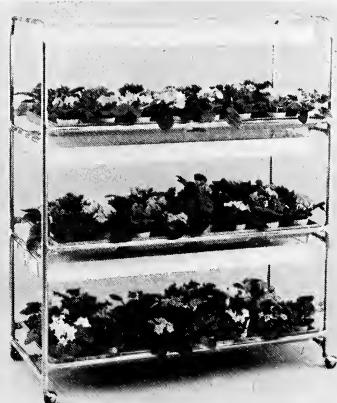
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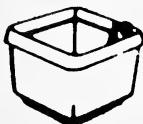
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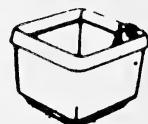
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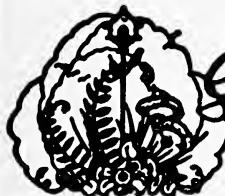
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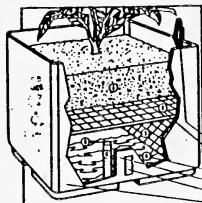
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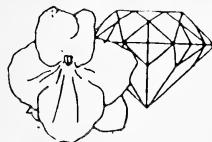
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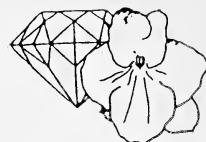
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WHERE SUPERIOR "GEMS" ARE GROWN

EXCITING NEW RELEASES FOR 1988 FROM YOUR FAVORITE HYBRIDIZERS

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS FROM ORLANDO - ORDER EARLY TO RESERVE YOUR CHOICES

- Burns - Majestic, Magic, Magnolia, etc.
- Bryant - Texas Sunbonnet, Conrad, Avalanche, etc.
- Champion - Painted Lady, Shady Lady, Onyx, etc.
- Fredette - Georgene, Angelica, Twin Pretty, etc.
- Pittman - Gentle Wonder, Perfect Pink, etc.
- Stork - Ice Fantasy, Bridal Pink, Ice Water, etc.
- Lyon - Fickle Flirt, Sunflare, Blueberry Buckle, etc.
- Williams - SC Christmas Sparkler, Garden Party, etc.

Also Smith, Boone and others — Nylon Wick 10 cents per foot postpaid

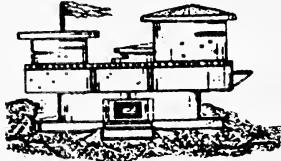
Plants \$3.00 - Catalog for \$1.00 Refundable 1st order — Leaves 75¢/Champion \$1.00

Shipping Costs each \$3.50 up to 6 plants or 15 leaves - add 25¢ for each extra plant or 5 leaves

No overseas shipping

UPS Second Day Air add \$3.50 additional per order

FANTASYLAND VIOLETS



**SPRING
SPECIAL**

1 FREE CHIMERA (our choice only) with \$25.00 minimum order. (You may list some selections for us to choose from.) Offer expires 5-1-88.

Send \$1.00 for our 1988 list which includes 2,500 old, new and unusual varieties from a wide selection of hybridizers. Also includes a nice selection of episcias and streptocarpus.

For variety, quality and reasonable prices give us a try.

MATT & JUDI KINGSBURY
Clayton, WI 54004

Rt. 1 Box 11 B
715-948-2455



P. O. Box 1274
Gainesville, FL 32601
(904) 377-8465

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch	Color	Type	10	20	50	100	500
2	White	RS	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/4	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	1.15	1.80	4.00	6.50	29.00
3	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.35	2.30	5.00	9.00	42.50
3 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT,SQ	1.55	2.70	6.30	11.00	50.00
4	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.85	3.20	7.20	13.50	60.00
4 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	2.30	4.00	8.50	16.00	76.00
5	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	2.65	4.90	11.00	19.50	88.00
6	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	3.25	5.65	13.00	25.00	119.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT	3.80	6.40	14.75	27.50	127.50
7	Wh or Gr	RS	6.30	11.75	27.50	49.50	235.00
8	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	6.80	12.75	29.00	55.00	250.00

(COLORS: Wh=White, Gr=Green)

(TYPE: RS=Round Standard, height & width are same.

RT=Round Tub, height is 3/4 of width.

SQ=Square, volume about the same as RS.)

PLASTIC PAN POTS

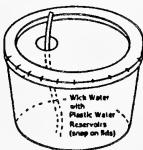
Very shallow, about half as deep as they are across the top, bottom holes only.

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	500
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.00	22.50	97.50
6	Wh or Gr	3.65	6.70	15.50	29.50	132.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	163.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	240.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	400.00

PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS

Volume	Height	20	50	100	500
8 oz.	1 3/4"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
16 oz.	3"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
32 oz.	3"	10.00	22.00	42.00	135.00

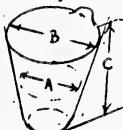
(wicks are not included)



DISCOVERY: We have found that 5" pans fit nicely and securely into the tops of 16 oz. reservoirs when the lids are left off!

GET READY FOR YOUR SALES WITH FLORACUPS (Plant sleeves)

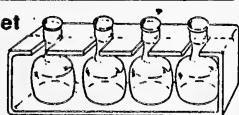
Write for quantity price quotes. Be sure to give the size of pots (A) with which they will be used.



STARTER GREENHOUSE - Includes 1 plastic tray, 1 divider of 72 cavities (6-pak), and 1 transparent dome. It is a rectangular greenhouse 22" long, 13 1/2" wide, and 5" high, assembled. Each set \$4.25

NEW! AQUA ROOT - \$7.95/set

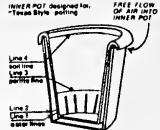
ROOT your leaves in clear acrylic flasks; 4 of them in a clear rack, 10" long; each flask is 3 1/4" high. It makes a nice gift.



Send for our **FREE CATALOG** which lists and describes several other items such as: many kinds of saucers, leaf supports, pens, labels, masks, gloves, Sphagnum and African Violet seeds, soil enriching materials, trays, books, insecticides, and more. Your request for a catalog will be answered by return mail.

OYAMA PLANTERS - \$1.49 each

As noted elsewhere in this journal, we are selling the popular OYAMA Texas Style Planters, in white, dark brown, and dark green. They are 4" across the top, and 4 3/4" tall, and have nicely rolled rims.



MOIST-RITE PLANTERS

We continue to sell the attractively designed double walled planter, providing for self-watering. It comes in light green, black, or white.

Single planter	\$ 3.50
Six planters	16.75
Twelve planters	29.50
Twenty-four planters	49.95



Plant Care Items

*Please Note:

Due to the bulkiness of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we are able to ship only 8 gallons of any one or combination of these four items with each shipping charge.

*Violet House Potting Soil	1 gal.	\$ 1.40
*Nadeau Soilless Mix	1 gal.	1.40
*Perlite - opens, aerates the soil	1 gal.	1.40
*Vermiculite - opens, holds soil moisture	1 gal.	1.40
Canadian Peat - milled	2 gal.	2.50
Dolomite Lime - raises alkalinity (pH)	1 lb.	1.30
Charcoal - sweetens soil	12 oz.	1.40
Sphagnum Moss - long fibered	1/4 cu. ft.	2.75
Fish Emulsion - promotes greening, roots	10 oz.	1.75
Leaf Shine & Cleaner - pump sprayer	8 fl. oz.	1.50
House Plant Insect Spray - non-aerosol	10 fl. oz.	1.50
Violet House Soil is a soilless medium containing Canadian peat, vermiculite, perlite, dolomite lime, and a small amount of fertilizer. The pH is approximately 6.5.		

CAPILLARY MATTING (Vatex)

Waterplants by means of capillary action. A dark plastic sheet, with tiny holes, lies on top of matting; pots are placed directly on plastic, water coming through the holes. Dark plastic, which comes with the matting, keeps light from the matting and thus minimizes growth of algae. Each square foot \$.35 4 ft. wide, x any length. (4' x 1' = 4 sq. ft. \$1.40)

PETER'S AFRICAN VIOLET FERTILIZERS

African Violet Special (12-36-14)	12 oz.	\$ 2.75
Variegated Special (5-50-17)	12 oz.	3.00
General Purpose (20-20-20)	16 oz.	2.50

Plastic Labels

3" (100/Pkg.)	\$ 1.25
4" (100/Pkg.)	\$ 1.75

Granny's Bloomers (Liquid)

Jungle Juice (Liquid)
Each — 2 oz. \$ 1.40

6 oz. \$ 2.50

Minimum Order \$7.50 plus shipping

Shipping Charges

48 States	\$ 3.00
Hawaii and Alaska	5.50
All other areas charged at actual cost	
U.P.S. charges for C.O.D. 2.00	

Our Prices Must Be Subject To Change Without Notice

Florida Customers Must Add 6% Sales Tax.

Send Orders To:

The Violet House

P. O. Box 1274
Gainesville, Florida 32601
Phone (904) 377-8465

JoS VIOLETS

15 Standard starters (my choice)	\$19.95
6 Hortense's 1988's	18.95
6 Hortense's starters	13.95
6 Wrangler starters	13.95
12 Semimini and mini starters	16.95
12 Trailer starters	15.95

My choice, labeled, different and postpaid.

Texas residents, please add 7% sales tax.

Send stamp for list

402 Dundee

Victoria, TX 77904

(512) 575-1344

Visitors by appointment.



Mary E. Gall
913-642-4357

MARY'S VIOLET

List - \$1.00

SPECIALIZING IN MINIS, STANDARDS, AND TRAILERS OF PROVEN SHOW QUALITY

1988 RALPH ROBINSON MINIATURES & SEMIMINIATURES

ROB'S ALMOST SINFUL (SM) ruffled pink, spattered ruby edge, Dbl, TLV.
ROB'S CLOWN AROUND (M) purple fantasy, slight green edge, Dbl., TLV.
ROB'S CRAZY DAZE (SM) pink, lt green edge, Sd-Dbl, TLV, heavy bloomer.
ROB'S DAYDREAMS (M) white blushed pink, frilly green edge, Dbl, TLV.
ROB'S DIAMOND CHIPS (SM) white shaded blue, Sd, lightly variegated.
ROB'S FOOLISHNESS (SM) lg pink stars, Dbl, Champion Var, heavy bloomer.

Leaves \$1.25 (No Starter Plants)



JOY

3200 W. 82nd Terrace
Leawood, Kansas 66206

ROB'S NEVER NAUGHTY (SM) lg frilly med/dark blue, Dbl, Champion Var.
ROB'S ROMANCER (M) heart shaped fuchsia, S-Sd, TLV, loads of blooms.
ROB'S SHADOW MAGIC (SM) med/dark purple, Sd-D, white Champion Var.
ROB'S TEMPTRESS (SM) frilly deep fuchsia red; Dbl, Champion Var.
ROB'S WICKED FICKLE (SM) lg white star, blue eye/edge, Dbl, TLB.

Shipping \$3.00 (Priority Postage)



PATTY'S PLANT PLACE



CHIMERA SPECIAL !!! these chimeras only \$5.00 each

when ordered from this advertisement:

DESERT DAWN . . . pink star with darker rose pink stripe, dark foliage.

KIWI DAZZLER . . . red frilly pansy shaped bloom with white stripe, medium green foliage.

MAUNA LOA . . . red coral star with dark red stripe, dark foliage.

PETUNIA . . . purple blue violet shaped blossom with clear white stripe, medium green foliage.

SPORT OF GROTEI . . . tiny blue blooms, white stripe, no pollen sacs, trailing foliage.

SILVER SUMMIT . . . big blue star with white stripe, medium green foliage.

VALENCIA . . . blue stars with white stripe, very heavy bloomer, medium green foliage.

Postage . . . \$4.25 per order.

DON'T MISS OUR SPRING OPEN HOUSE !
April 23 and 24, 1988 — 9:00 A.M. 'til 6:00 P.M.

15% discount on all retail purchases during open house; refreshments and door prizes. See the 1988 varieties in bloom!

From Wichita take highway 54 West 20 miles, take the K251 exit south 2 miles.

To receive our Spring 1988 catalog send 50 cents in stamps or coins.

PATRICIA DANIEL

ph. 316-542-0371

Rt. 2 Box 41
Cheney, Kansas 67025



NEW FOR 1988!!

21 standards from **FREDETTE** - 13 of these are naturally symmetrical and will make show plants without special effort!

7 standards from **HOBBS** (Dean) with perfect symmetry. Real Beauties!

12 Minis and semiminis from **HORTENSE** - All winners!!

Beautiful plants will be available from — **KENT**, **BOONE**, **LYON**, **GRANGER** and **WRANGLER**. We will still feature some of the older varieties of these hybridizers and the best of Maas and Utz. Our new descriptive list is available for 50¢.

24 new leaves of our choice labeled - \$18.00

New and previous releases of our choice labeled - 24 for \$14.00 or 50 for \$25.00

We ship priority mail all year in the South - weather permitting and in the North starting in late April. Texans add 6% tax. Please make check payable to **Shirley Sanders, 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio, TX 78221 Telephone: 512-923-1093**

JUDY'S VIOLETS

1988 Authorized Fredette Distributor - also featuring Boone, Bryant, Cookie, Kent, Granger, Lyon, Pittman, Wrangler's & others.

Starter Plants \$2.50 - Leaves \$.75

**#9 Graeler Drive 314-997-2859
Creve Coeur, MO 63146 List: 2 stamps
Shipping Begins May 1**

SPRING SPECIALS

20 Leaves (my choice '87 releases)	\$ 9.50
40 Leaves (my choice '87 releases)	\$17.00

15 Leaves (my choice/minis & semis)	\$ 8.50
30 Leaves (my choice/minis & semis)	\$16.00
15 Leaves (my choice/Fantasy blossoms)	\$ 8.50
20 Leaves (my choice)	\$ 8.00
40 Leaves (my choice)	\$13.50
20 Variegated Leaves (my choice)	\$10.00
40 Variegated Leaves (my choice)	\$17.00

All different, labeled and postpaid. Shipping begins end of April if weather permits. USA Shipping Only

Doris Drennen, 1415 Central Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870

Violet Express



*"Superior violets
expressly for you!"*

JUST A FEW OF THE OUTSTANDING NEW RELEASES READY FOR SPRING SHIPPING

- JUST SUPER (Champion) [1988] - Very large, ruffled, full doubles in royal purple with some veining. Ruffled tan variegation on dark green foliage.
- SHADY LADY (Champion) [1988] - Light wine doubles with dark outer edges. Much pinkish variegation on green tailored foliage. Stunning!
- TUFFY TRINKET (Champion) [1988] - **semimini** - Cupped doubles in lavender with dark edges above tailored light green, lightly variegated foliage. Charming!
- EASTER JOY (Fredette) [1988] - A profusion of ruffled white doubles, often with touches of deep rose and green. Tailored foliage. Marvelous bloomer.
- GEORGENE (Fredette) [1988] - Large ruffled red stars over ruffled variegated foliage which is naturally well behaved and needs no training. Gorgeous!
- KLONDIKE (Fredette) [1988] - Naturally symmetrical tailored foliage enhances the very large white semidouble blooms. Show quality for novice and pro!
- PRINCESS MOONBEAM (Fredette) [1988] - Dreamy silvery lavender-blue stars with lighter edging are large and prolific over dark tailored foliage.
- PIXILATION (Domiano) [Fall '87] - Two-tone lavender double blooms with darker tips. Happy Cricket type medium green foliage grows large.
- SWAMP TURTLE (Domiano) [Fall '87] - Two-tone deep red-orchid semidouble ruffled stars with darker eye, rays, and edges. Wavy medium green foliage. Grows large. Fantastic eye appeal!
- BISQUE RISQUE (Domiano) [Spring '87] - Bouquets of spicy red slightly ruffled semidoubles with darker mottling, edges and eye. Dark green, slightly ruffled foliage. Excellent variety!
- ICE FANTASY (Kent's) [Fall '87] - Unusual large double white stars heavily sprinkled with blue fantasy markings; often bears twenty or more buds on each of the many strong stems on mature plants. Won Best New Cultivar at the AVSA National Convention in 1987 in Orlando.
- OMAHA (Kent's) [Fall '87] - Big, showy double purple stars with white fluted edges high above excellent symmetrical, flat show foliage. Many blooms per stem on mature plants. A blue ribbon award at the Orlando convention.
- UMBRELLA DAYS (Kent's) [Fall '87] - Eye-catching large orchid semidouble stars highlighted with darker eyes and streaked with subtle lavender-blue fantasy markings. Show dark tailored foliage grows large.
- SUMMER WINDS (Pittman) [1988] - Lovely clusters of frilled edge semidouble lavender blooms held high above well shaped tailored foliage.
- LAVENDER MAGIC (Pittman) [1988] - **semiminis** - Outstanding lavender doubles with geneva edges, in profusion over show type tailored foliage.
- LITTLE HARP (Pittman) [1988] - **mini** - Small growing with lots of semidouble fuchsia blossoms. Delightfully lovely!
- RAINBOW'S ENCHANTED GOLD (Wasmund) [1988] - An unusual fantasy of rose with raspberry streaks and spots on large semidouble blooms. Can have white edges on top petals when grown cool. Green and gold crown variegation.
- RAINBOW'S LIMELIGHT (Wasmund) [1988] - 200 long lasting blooms at once? Possible with these cupped semidouble white stars with wide green edges. Symmetrical medium green tailored foliage. A super showplant!
- RAINBOW'S NEW HORIZONS (Wasmund) [1988] - Very large semidouble stars of light lavender-blue with pale pink and white fantasy stripes and puffs; A new color combi! Light green and white Tommie Lee foliage. Grows large.

***OTHER GORGEOUS NEW RELEASES ARE DESCRIBED IN MY JAN. '88 ad, AVSA Magazine.* **ORDER FROM THESE TWO ADS**
Starter plants, \$2.75 each. (Champion varieties, \$3.00 each, as per franchise agreement.) MINIMUM ORDER, 4 PLANTS**

Basic shipping, \$3.50 per order. ADD \$4.50 if you wish UPS 2nd day air.

For descriptions of over 400 of the best proven varieties, new and older, from **BOONE** * **CHAMPION** * **COOKIE** * **FREDETTE** * **GRANGER** * **JEANNETTE'S JESNERIADS** (Domiano) * **KENT'S** * **LYON/SORANO** * **NADEAU** * **SANDRA WILLIAMS** * **SMITH'S WRANGLER'S** * **SWIFT** * **WASMUND** * and OTHERS, INCLUDING CANADIAN HYBRIDIZERS * Send for my 1988 catalog - \$1.00, refundable with order.

Rooted cuttings available by special order. ***Inquire about club project discounts.

Shipping of starter plants and fresh cut leaves will begin about May 1 from my new and expanded growing facilities.

GENOLA B. COX, 1441 Everett Road, Eagle River, WI 54521 • (715) 479-3099 or (715) 479-8663

Visit my "growing family" in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin. (Please call first) **Closed Sundays and Mondays**

Cobblestone Violets

323 N. Main St. • Greeley, KS 66033
"Come Grow With Us"

List 50¢ - See Jan. ad for shipping info

ZACA VISTA NURSERY

1190 Alamo Pintado Road
Solvang, California 93463 • (805)688-2585



Featuring Hybrid Saintpaulias
& Related Gesneriads

SEND \$1.00 for 1988 CATALOG
and "Currently Available Listing"
(overseas requests: \$2.00 U.S.)

GREENHOUSE HOURS —
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Wednesday thru Sunday: 9 a.m. 'til 5 p.m.

Monday & Tuesday: closed

Arranged Tour Groups Invited

TOMARA AFRICAN VIOLETS

As indicated in our November ad, we will not be shipping plants in 1988. However, we will be open for walk-in business, and welcome you to stop by if you are in the area. It would be advisable to call ahead.

New for 1988 from Fredette: Angelica, Easter Joy, Jacey, Lovely Linda, Lucky Duck, Orchid Lily, Niantic, Party Line, Pretty in Blue, Pretty in Pink, Pretty in Red, Princess Moonbeam, Rocochet, Rosy Image, Sunbird, Twin Pretty, Wood Rose.

Betty Bryant: Ann, American Dynamo, Bashful Beauty, Bill Foster, Blackie Bryant, Carol Thomas, Dallas Doozie, Gladys, Gorgeous Geanie, Lovely Lorine, Lynda, Mint Julep, Texas Blue Moon, Royal Tizzy, Texas Sunbonnet, Yvonne.

Sandra Williams: Morning Mocha, Suncoast Aglitter, SC Antique, SC Candy Lace, SC Garden Party, SC Purely Joyous, SC Sapphire, SC Wedgewood.

We will still have many of the older Fredette varieties as well as varieties from other hybridizers.

MRS. R. D. TOMPKIN
Rt. 3, Box 116, Fayette, MO 65248 • 816-248-3232
Visitors Welcome (9-5) Sunday by appointment

Mon - Sat 10-5
closed Sun & Tues

THE VIOLET SHOWCASE

since 1969

3147 SOUTH BROADWAY

Boone 285 Fr. Moon Flower
174 Brilliant Excuse 141 Clittersweet
Vampire's Kiss 100 Kati
Bryant 329 Polly Doodle
152 Bashful Beauty 108 Raindrops
172 Red Morgan 181 Shandoah
189 Royal Blood
Fredette 110 Camelot Pink
1988 Releases 111 Cameo Queen
316 Angelica 175 Coral Gio
292 Doll Festival 177 Coralette
136 Dutch Treat 120 Crystallare
143 Easter Joy 107 Fantasy Gio
200 Orchid Lily 221 Fantasy Sensation
306 Georgene 115 Fantasy Splendor
142 Grapes Soda 124 Fantasy Sunset
122 Hanky Panky 138 Garnet Elf
307 Jacey 259 Gilded Edge
296 Klondike 264 Kathi Gee
229 Party Line 237 Marie Ann
303 Pretty in Blue 235 Mikado Red
315 Pretty in Pink 279 Ming Blue
195 Prin. Moonbeam 162 Ming White
236 Ricochet 227 Pearl White
249 Rosy Image 294 Perfectionaire
193 Sunbird 254 Picturesque
286 Twin Pretty 97 Raspberry Lace
284 Wood Rose 246 Raspberry Rose
Older Varieties: 231 Redlands Pride
194 Autumn Lilac 191 Ruby Tuesday
262 Chiffon Print 253 Silverado
98 Tomoko 203 Vibrant Val
278 Touche'

Johnson (Nortex Series)

156 Petticoat Haven
283 Razzmatazz Haven
297 Snowflirl Haven
288 Tangerine Haven
Lyon/Sorano
301 Autumn Blues
132 Beau Jester
222 Big Country
160 Blueberry Buckle
312 Celestial Angel
103 Chatterbox
217 Cherry Brandy
164 Christmas Carol
218 Christmas Frills
153 Coral Kiss
223 Cotton Candy
219 Desert Sunset
109 Fickle Flirt
309 Grape Slush
166 Hello Sunshine
228 Morning Thunder
319 Petticoats-N-Lace
317 Petticoats-N-Pink
280 Ruffles-N-Lace
281 Sheet Romance
144 Slightly Sassy
298 Snow Squall
163 Stardust Blue
203 Vibrant Val
261 Zapped

DEPT AV

Pitman
149 Alamo Red
197 Dode
199 Reflection
268 Tidecrest
Swift
241 Adagio
247 Dumpling
137 French Lilac
192 Fresh Flirt
126 Mermaid
239 Rose Embroidery
313 Swifty Bonanza
311 Swiftly Sunshine
Tremblay
256 Ballerine
180 Carouge
151 Fleur de Mai
260 Melanie J
Volkmann
185 Blue Danube
169 Fortune
250 Jessica
146 Jingle Bells
186 Shirley
114 Twilight Princess
Wasmund
212 R. Marblehead
299 R. Meteor Splash

ENGLEWOOD, CO 80110

Pinwheel Types 147 Kumiko
Chimerals 291 Mixed Up
(Plants only) 161 Ms Pretty
505 Fancy That \$20 101 Old Dom. Sprik.
507 Kileuea \$20 182 Pink Lady
502 Kili Dazz. \$12 289 Tiger Lily
512 Mauna Kea \$12 155 Touch of Gr.
508 Purple Pin. \$9 90 Wewonchu
509 Red Pinwheel \$9 318 Wr. Candy Mt.
504 Yasuo \$17 PLUS DOZENS
Trailers MORE including
(various hybridizers) 36 miniatures and
451 Blazing Trail-m semiminatures
454 Brazos Belle-m and several
457 Cirelda-sm gesneriads on our
452 Dancin Trail-sm descriptive list
456 Hymnoon Tr.-sm See below.
453 Pixie Blue-m
416 Ramblin' Dream
410 Ramblin' Lace VIOLETS ARE
415 Ramblin' Ruby ALL WE DO -
455 Ramblin' Silver FULL TIME.
Others
130 Alexander Nicholas
232 Alice Margaret
112 Canadian Sunset
116 Chris
300 Gr. Balls of Fire
204 Happy Cricket Douglas & Barbara
145 Hot Blooded Crispin, Owners.
91 Ice Fantasy

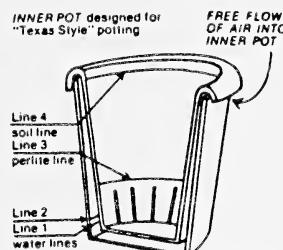
Prices include packing and shipping by Priority Mail. Starter plants \$3.00 ea., Leaf cuttings: \$1.25 ea. Minimum order 4 plants or 8 leaves. For Special Delivery or UPS 2nd Day Air add \$3.50. Shipping May 1 thru Oct. 15 weather permitting. LIST A FEW SUBSTITUTES. THIS IS OUR ONLY POLICY. You will receive a post card just before we ship to you. Please use variety name and number when ordering. We also have a complete line of growing supplies, lighted plant stands, soilless mixes, fertilizers, pots, wicking trays, Insecticides, leaf support rings, books, seeds and more, which we ship year round. Send \$1 for the 30 page supply catalog/descriptive plant list. Clubs/large scale growers ask for our discount bulk supplies list with your catalog/list. SORRY, NO FREE LITERATURE; NO PHONE ORDERS.

oyama 'E-Z GROWING' PLANTERS®

Specifically designed for African Violets. So unique they're patented



1. Little or no watering skill required.
2. Shows you when and how much to water.
3. High quality, shatter proof plastic with textured finish.
4. Rounded edge protects and supports leaves.
5. Built-in saucer protects furniture from leaks and spills.
6. Approved for shows by African Violet Society.
7. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.
8. Great gift for beginners and experienced growers alike.



TEXAS STYLE—This is the potting method that grows 'em bigger and better! The 1½ inch layer of perlite provides the magic of 'TEXAS STYLE.' The fine feeder roots grow down into the perlite layer where they can readily absorb moisture, nutrients and oxygen easier than they can in soil alone. This advantage with added factors of "constant-moisture" and "constant-feeding," will nurture healthy, flourishing plants, practicing guaranteed.

Our club is using a lot of these Oyama Pots. One member put a lifeless plant in one, and remarked, "This is the first sign of life I've seen." —D. Penland

I was very pleased with the 6 pots ordered from you early this summer and find I MUST have more. They're great. —V.R.

These planters work great for African Violets. It's so much easier to control the moisture. Thank you. —M. Hogan

I should have pictures before I gave away 3 baby plants. I had grown 3 examples of the same plant in an Oyama, and 1 grown on capillary matting. The difference was

dramatic. I gave away the smaller plants and kept the ones in the Oyama pots.—D.P.

I have never had my plants grow as happily as they do in these pots!

—E. S. Habif

New Designer Colors! Pastel Pink Azure Blue

Available in 4-inch only

4 inch Starter plants and semi-minis	5 inch Best all around size	6 inch Larger growing violets and other houseplants
\$1.49	\$1.99	\$2.99

Colors: Forest Green, Earth Brown, White • Add \$1.50 for postage and handling of 1st planter, \$.25 each for additional planters. CA residents please add 6% sales tax. Dealer and club inquiries invited.

Be sure to stop in and see the OYAMA® Texas Planter at the closest African Violet supplier in your area:

Patches & Pots, El Cajon, CA (619) 442-7037

Lucy's, Yreka, CA (916) 842-6721

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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 41

Number 3

May · June 1988



Strictly Business — Your Business

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If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 1490 Saturn St., Merritt Island, FL 32953.

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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 41 Number 3

May/June 1988

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

COVER - Winning 2nd Best Registered Variety at the 1987 Orlando convention was Hortense Pittman's 'Precious Pink,' grown by Alyce Droege of Winter Haven, FL.

(Kodachrome film developed by Total Chrome, Inc., Hollywood, FL)

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK TINARI
2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Allen Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704
MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009
NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704
BOB GREEN, Publications Chairman
997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955
COLUMNISTS
David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Ellie Beglin, Margaret Waggespack, Norita Hallum, Betty Tapping, Hugh Mackey, Marie Burns, Bill Foster, Nancy Hayes, Nancy Lawrence, Linda Neumann, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson and Lyndall Owens
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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

The Grand Reunion in Dallas is still very fresh in our memories. What a delightful time was enjoyed by all who were fortunate enough to attend the 42nd annual AVSA Convention. Every member of the Lone Star African Violet Council took pride in helping First African Violet Society of Dallas, First Nighters African Violet Society and Alpha African Violet Society host the Texas Convention. It is with sincere appreciation for a Big Job well done that we thank the Convention Cochairs, Bill Foster and Mary Ann Corrigan, and for the excellent Show directed by Cochairs, Martha Turner and Paula Foster.

Our thanks also go to Emilie Savage and her judges for their work in having the national show judged and ready when the doors were thrown open to the eager enthusiastic conventioneers. Fourteen commercial display tables gave the showroom that added touch of beauty. A favorite area was the Commercial Salesroom with all the tempting new varieties introduced by the hybridizers this year. Putting on a Convention the calibre of the Dallas meeting, takes many dedicated, hard-working people. We express our sincere thanks to each of you for all of your hours of hard work, for the many crises you met and the many problems you solved.

We also wish to thank DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, and her committee who work year round coordinating convention details, including excellent workshops and programs. It all added up to an outstanding Convention of which all of us can be proud. Convention awards and reports will appear in the July issue of the Magazine.

As we begin this new term of office, it seems an appropriate time to review and renew our goals of last year, i.e., for the National Society to have closer ties with the local affiliates through Communication, and for increasing our membership. The Beaumont Office reports that approximately 2,000 new members were added to the rolls last year. This increase is due largely to the cooperation of many affiliates who are working toward 100% AVSA membership, as well as to the dedicated efforts of our AVSA Office staff to keep up to date membership records and to give prompt and reliable service. May I continue to urge all AVSA members to write to me voicing their suggestions and concerns for improved services from the National Society? This is

similar to an Open Forum conducted by correspondence. We need your input!

I am especially happy to report that the goal toward accumulating contributions for the Building Fund in the amount of \$20,000 by the Dallas Convention has been reached. This enables the Society to become eligible for Lizeta Hamilton's generous offer. AVSA still needs your continued donations in order to purchase a home of our own. The Building Fund will continue to grow under its able chairman, Nell-Sue Tyson.

The Board of Directors will make every effort to approve more services for the affiliates during the coming year. Read the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting published in the September issue of the Magazine and President's Letters for details. The key to more services, additional pages in the Magazine, increased research, etc., is larger membership. We ask for your help in promoting membership drives and encouraging new members to enjoy the benefits of AVSA membership.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of our great Society we appreciate the confidence which you have placed in us. We pledge to work together another year for continued growth and increased services to our members.

Happy growing to all,

Frances Young

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

I have received two letters from members who took offense to my remarks in the March AVM in regards to the woman who complained about too much space being taken in the AVM to promote the Dallas convention. It was not my intention to offend anyone, and I apologize. My main purpose was to point out that the convention is an important AVSA function to hundreds of growers and that it is indeed a worthwhile trip for members who wish to improve their own growing skills or just enjoy the skills of other growers. I realize that not everyone can attend the conventions, but I do believe that any member who can afford it, should try to attend at least one convention in their lifetime.

To our members who object to the space taken in the magazine for convention or for other society information, I would like to say that the AVSA Board of Directors is aware of the problem and they are diligently working on a plan to be able to give our

members *more growing information*, while at the same time making it possible to give other members of the society the business information that is important to them. A real solution is near at hand; so, to those members who want more growing information, please be patient — AVSA has your best interests at heart.

Orders Needed by a Specific Date

To any of our members who need an item or items by a certain date, such as entry tags or culture folders or emblems, please, please, please specify the "Date Needed By" on your order.

Canadian Round Robin

Interested in a Round Robin? AVSA members in the United States are invited to join the Canadian Round Robin, sponsored by the Sussex Club. If you are interested, contact: Mrs. Jeanie Bell, R. R. No. 4, Codys, New Brunswick, Canada E0E 1E0.

AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

David Buttram
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Gordon Boone

The sky was threatening snow. The cold winter wind chilled in sharp contrast to the searing heat of the Oklahoma August sun I had felt when I last visited Gordon Boone.

It was early in the morning when I arrived and Gordon was already watering his African violets with a soft spray of warm water.

Before we launched into the actual interview, Gordon wanted to show me his latest "babies." Many were blooming for the first time and others had been around for several months. They were beautiful and full of promise and he was very optimistic. But let's go back to the beginning ...

Gordon is originally from Red Oak, a small country town in southwestern Iowa. The oldest of two boys, Gordon learned to love plants at a young age. His mother always had flowers in the yard and house, and his father worked for a nursery in nearby Shenandoah — the nursery capital of the world.

Red Oak Greenhouses held a particular fascination for young Gordon. He recalls, "I was growing flowers by the time I was 12 or 13. In fact, I won my first blue ribbon at a flower show at age seven, for growing sweet peas, of all things."

In 1966, Gordon moved to Canada and started hybridizing geraniums. "I had the largest mail order geranium nursery in Canada and we shipped through Dominion Seed House. There was a man there named John Bradshaw who told me of a man I should meet. Shortly, Bradshaw introduced me to Ernest Fisher and almost immediately we became friends. I got a few violets from Ernie and began making crosses. He took me on as a protégé. Whenever I wanted to know how to do this or that, he was totally free with his information.

"He always emphasized one thing, 'Gordon,

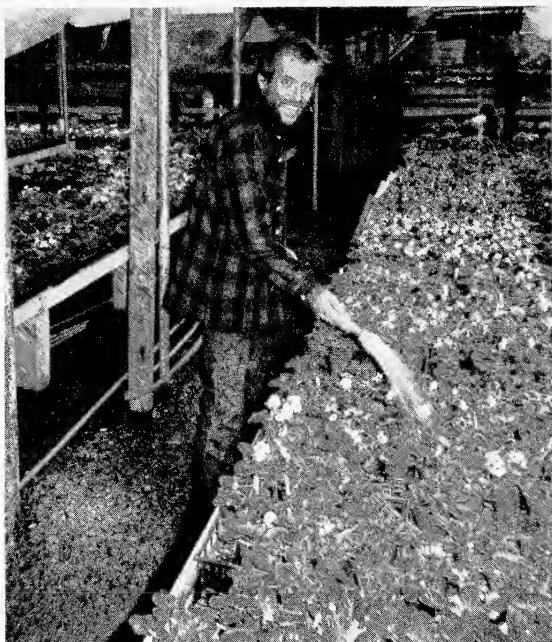
what you want to do is to get your foliage, because once you get your foliage, you can put any bloom you want on to it. Don't worry about the bloom. A good bloom on bad foliage is not worthwhile.'

"I stayed in contact with him until he died. I was given all of his breeding records." Then, looking away with sadness in his eyes, he said, "He was a fine man."

After making a few crosses and getting pods, Gordon had to return to Iowa because of his father's failing health. He brought his fresh seeds with him and in 1976 was able to plant them and see the results



Gordon Boone holds two of his new seedlings.



Gordon sprays a soft, warm stream of water on to his plants.

of his dreams.

Gordon got a job at Red Oak Greenhouses and grew and proved out his first hybrids. "I continued hybridizing there and I heard about Kent Stork from a little ad in the African Violet Magazine. His place is only about 60 miles from Red Oak. I believe it was the first year he advertised, and I drove up to meet him. I told him that I had some pretty good seedlings and asked if he would be interested in handling my introductions, on an exclusive basis. He was, and he's been selling my varieties exclusively ever since."

Joyce Stork remembers the first Boone variety to become popular: "It was on our display table at the AVSA Convention in Syracuse, New York. 'Cherry Cola' was so popular and was considered by the judges for Best New Introduction. 'Cherry Cola' has been an excellent seller for us."

"Gordon's 'Heirloom' is still very popular throughout the south because of its heat resistance. Then here in the midwest, 'Sapphire Halo' is his most popular variegated plant."

Gordon started to name his favorites — "Grand Slam," (uh, gosh, chuckle), "Heirloom," "Cherry Cola," (oh that's an interesting story) — It was a seedling I had decided I didn't like and had thrown it away; but my friend, Jan, pulled it out of the

garbage and said, 'That's too pretty. Don't throw it away.'

"I named it 'Cherry Cola' and then came 'Royal Cola' and then the whole 'cola' series.

"I think, and this is a guess, there have been 36 varieties released in the last ten years."

A welcomed break interrupted our interview as one of the workers brought us coffee.

Continuing, "About half of them are registered with AVSA and I have 16 more to be registered right away."

Again, I asked Gordon to list more of his favorites, "'Heirloom,' 'Cherry Cola,' 'Velvet Crush,' 'Sapphire Halo,' 'Vampire's Kiss,'" (That's been a big favorite.)

About three years ago Gordon left Red Oak and moved to Oklahoma City where he is manager for Cooper's Plant Mart. Although the business is a full-service plant market, the owner, James Cooper, has allotted Gordon, 4,000 square feet to devote to hybridizing and growing African violets. Construction is underway for two additional greenhouses to



Portion of 4,000 sq. ft. greenhouse with benches filled with Boone seedlings.

the rear of the present house.

"Gordon," I asked, "Where do you see African violets going? What are some of your personal goals?"

Quickly, he replied, "Heat tolerance, mildew resistance — I believe that both of these traits are genetic. You know there are certain plants that will get mildew no matter what you do. And other plants you can put beside them and never have a problem.

"I think some of the characteristics become evident only after growing them three or four years. I don't believe you can put a leaf down and release it. It seems like my plants stay around. I mean, 'Heirloom' and 'Cherry Cola' are still on lists and winning shows. 'Crushed Velvet' is still doing things."

Like most successful hybridizers, Gordon keeps careful records. "Oh, yes, I record everything. I can go back to the very first cross I made — and almost everything of mine goes back to an old variety of Ernest Fisher's called 'Patricia Jean' and another one of Ernie's called 'Christin Diane.'

"Records are so important because after a while you know what to expect if you cross this and that. You know what your strains will likely produce.

Every cross I make is with an intent. It's not — that's pretty and this is pretty — but rather I try to lengthen the bloom stem, for example, by crossing a plant with short bloom stems with one that has long and strong stems."

All of Gordon's variegated plants go back to 'Lady Baltimore' from Irene Fredette, and he used 'Ballet Jackie' to get "commercial strength" into his strains. Another plant used early to get certain desirable traits was Fredette's 'Cactus Rose.'

Irene Fredette has been a big factor in Gordon's life. "I would call her and she was always very free to talk and share information with me. She was a real inspiration. I wish I could meet the lady sometime."

Gordon also credits Sidney Sorano for her help. Winston Smith gives Gordon great moral support — "We exchange seedlings, breeding records ... he's quite a man."

His work with Smith and others is helping him reach a goal of "commercial variegates" that are just as strong as green leaved standard violets. "There's is a definite market and I believe three or four generations will give us that strength."

"Somewhat of a loner" is the way the fast-talking



Gordon Boone in front of work place in Oklahoma City.

quick-moving Boone describes himself. "I have only been to two AVSA Conventions, but I have had great, great support from the Lincoln (Nebraska) African Violet Society. Those people, especially Ruth and Loyd Hansen and Sybil Behrens, have given a lot of moral support — through thick and thin. They've always been there.

"In the early days I had some real disastrous crosses. You know what I mean — all single pinks or twisted, contorted foliage. Now, I usually get out of a cross, what I am looking for."

In making your crosses, how much of it is an art and how much is science?

After a long, thoughtful pause, the answer came: "I'll wake up in the night and certain crosses will come to my mind — inspiration is the word I'm looking for. It will seem *that is the* match I've been searching for. I'll get up and write it down.

"'Sapphire Halo' came to me that way. I really can't take all the credit, as I think it is a God-given gift."

Patience is also a factor as Gordon now grows out about 7,000 seedlings a year and keeps back only about 16 for future testing for particular traits and strengths.

Joyce Stork summarizes Boone's hybridizing successes: "Gordon is unusually brilliant for packing excellence into his hybrids. He is very logical in his hybridizing. It's a thoughtful, scientific process for him."

With that question inconclusively answered, I am inclined to believe that success in hybridizing is a unique mixture of art, science and providence.

"To me, it is not important that my plants win in shows. I want to produce good violets so people can grow and enjoy them and be happy with them. I think that's more important than anything else. Does that make sense?"

Well said, and a worthy goal for anyone who hybridizes and sells the beautiful African violet.

(Author's Note: Your comments and suggestions are appreciated. Thank you.)

New Nadeau Seedling Arrives

Word has been received at the AVSA office in Beaumont of the latest seedling to be produced by Ronn and Katsuko Nadeau of St. Louis, MO. A baby girl, Lisa Louise, was born February 10, 1988 and weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. (That's some seedling, Ronn and Katsuko!) Congratulations!

Kansas City Convention Awards

Anne Jantzen
Awards Chairman
2725 Katrina Way
Mountain View, CA 94040

Individuals, Councils, and Societies — are you planning to give an award for the Kansas City Convention, 1989? Now is the time to send your award to me, no later than September 15, 1988 for the January AVM. January 1, 1989 is the deadline for the souvenir book.

Please do not specify an award for the best plant of a hybridizer - specify a named variety. When sending an award for a plant that is not listed in the magazine, please send the description with your award.

Awards must be some suitable item or cash, NO GIFT CERTIFICATES, PLEASE. All items, other than cash, are to be sent to the Awards Aide, Max Wooderson, 703 Montgomery, Lee's Summit, MO 64063, or you may bring it with you to the convention. When advising me of your award, please specify what it is and if you are bringing it with you. Cash awards are to be paid by check in U.S. funds, made out to AVSA Kansas City Convention Fund and mailed to Mrs. J. K. Jantzen, 2725 Katrina Way, Mountain View, CA 94040. All cash awards not awarded will remain in the convention fund. All awards must be directed to the Awards Chairman.

Donors - thank you for your continuing support. Winners - the donors name and address will be in your award envelope - they would appreciate hearing from you.

Aurora Borealis AVS In Alaska Needs Judges

Aurora Borealis AVS of Anchorage, Alaska, would like to extend an invitation to any AVSA Judges who plan on visiting Alaska at the time of their show (June 24-26). They will provide transportation and lodging accommodations through the hospitality of their members.

Interested parties should contact: Lucy Moody, president, 907-688-3465.

Adapting To A “Great Way of Life”

Darryl Hoover
PSC 1 Box 1328
Williams AFB, AZ 85240-1328

Have you ever considered what you'd do if your living space suddenly decreased by 80%? Where on earth would you find space for the really important things — like plant stands?

Well, two years ago I joined the Air Force and soon became the envy of every interior decorator that strives to efficiently use every inch of available space.

You see, the dormitory rooms aren't what you'd consider large. In fact, you have to go outside if you want to change your mind. So you find yourself compromising a bit and abandoning some of the morals your mother instilled in you during childhood.

The childhood sin of hiding stuff under your bed becomes an acceptable practice. The necessity for doors to open completely doesn't seem necessary anymore. And the limited drawer space makes the "Junk Drawer," which ranks right up there with Mom and Apple Pie as an American institution, a thing of the past.

Through hours of arranging and rearranging I was able to create an area between my bed and refrigerator large enough for a plant stand. I sent the measurements to my father, and a few weeks later, presto, I had myself a plant stand.

With the limited amount of shelf space at my disposal and no room to expand, I decided to concentrate strictly on miniatures. Since miniatures never made up the majority of my collection back home, I decided to go to the expert for some advice on varieties. Ellie Beglin (she is the expert) quickly sent me a list of the varieties that looked promising, or had already proven themselves. Just one look at the minis she selected, convinced me she knew how to pick winners. Thanks Ellie!

Inspections and the military go hand-in-hand, and room inspections are by far the most frequent and common. The Base Commander inspects the dormitories about every six weeks. I hadn't had my stand up a week when I found out it was our week to be inspected. Then to add to my problems, my roommate who works at the post office called to inform me that I just received a box of plants. Since I didn't know and really didn't want to know what the Base Commander would say about a plant stand in my room, the thought of disassembling the stand

and storing (which is not the same as hiding) it and the plants in my wall locker, became a distinct possibility.

Well, I decided to leave the stand up and place the shipment of plants I just received under the lights. As it turned out, his wife's favorite pastime, as he put it, was killing African violets. He thought it was a great idea that I was growing plants in my room and gave me his approval to continue doing so.

So after some initial adjustments to the Air Force, my violets and I are adapting very well to "a great way of life."



And he wins ribbons, too!



QUESTION BOX



*Mrs. John Hayes
9 Cobblestone Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002*



This column arrives as many of you are just wrapping up spring shows or getting ready for one near at hand. Remember the need to care for those plants that come home from shows; they have been exposed to "neighbors" that may have "crawly friends" that have not yet become obvious. Isolation is important and take extreme care not to introduce new creatures to your home collection! Others have been visitors at shows and may be newly diagnosed with the "violet disease," the disease that is rarely cured, usually runs rampant in a short time, that love of the African violet and the desire to have more-more-more!! Remember, more is not necessarily better. Try very hard to only grow as many plants as you care for well.

In some parts of the country, gardening time is at hand and with it brings the perennial warnings, two in number. *First* and foremost, never, no never, come back into the home after gardening, and care for your violets in ANY way. Many insects that are out of doors do not harm outdoor plants but can be bothersome or lethal to your violets. Clean hands and clean clothing before caring for violets, after gardening, is a must. *Second* is only a concern for those that have a "second" hobby in the outdoors. Remember that your violets need constant and regular care to perform well for you, whether you are a casual grower or a show exhibitor. Do not neglect your inside "babies" for long; it WILL show. In some parts of the country there are shows in the fall and your summer care is important to pruduce that prize-winning plant.

Question: I have had difficulty rooting leaves from my miniatures. Do you have any suggestions?

Answer: This is not the first time I have had this question. I, too, have had some times when the little leaves seem to rot more quickly than standard leaves. I have employed one or two methods to

prevent loss of leaves. It is not too painful if it is a plant you own, but when it is a precious leaf given to you from a friend, or better than that, a purchased leaf, it is a disaster!

For several years, our Windsor African Violet Society sold plastic bread boxes which we drilled holes in the top for ventilation. I find my miniature leaves do extremely well in this "greenhouse" environment, and in fact, produce babies much quicker than other methods. I also have trays of 28 pots that I wick to be sure soil does not dry out, but still have better success with the former method. If you see too much moisture running down the sides, just open up the cover for a few hours or most of a day and that seems to solve the problem. I have also used small pots encased in a plastic bag. I leave the bag on only until I see the first babies appear and then uncover. In this case you also have to be careful that there is not too much moisture. You may have to open the bag to dry out briefly if water is running down the sides. Another problem with miniature babies can be in the watering of these little maternity wards. You should be careful not to allow water to stand in the center of all the little babies clustered around the mother leaf. When repotting tiny miniature babies, you must also be cautious to be sure they are potted in a fine medium that will not dry out easily. Because they are small, their root systems are tiny and sometimes non-existent. Watering frequently is a must. They also do very well if you have the time to mist them frequently with hot water. Remember, when you mist, the water cools off quickly as it drifts down to the plants. Tiny babies as a rule do not do well with foliar feeding, but will love the extra foliar mist.

Question: What medium should I use to repot tiny plantlets after removing them from mother leaf?

Answer: This question seemed to go along with the first one. I personally vary my medium according

to the size of the plantlet and how many roots it has. I use fine vermiculite for miniature and semiminiature plantlets and also for rooting suckers. I feel it holds moisture better — just my opinion. Many of our commercial growers use plain coarse vermiculite for potting up new babies and swear by its productivity, losing very few. If I have a plantlet from a standard variety with a fair amount of roots I am inclined to put it in a 2-1/2" pot right in a soilless mix and wick it with a fine wick so the mix is not too soggy.

Question: I have been trying to find out where the Latin name for the family of gesneriads came from and have had little success. I live in a small town and the library has limited resources.

Answer: I am ashamed to admit that I did not know the answer to this and made a call to a gesneriad judge who prefers to not have her name used. She should get the credit for educating this columnist! Actually, she referred me to that beautiful book, *The Miracle Houseplants*. In the very front of the book is a most interesting page about Konrad Gesner. Like many, I had assumed the family of our beloved African violet was *totally* Latin in derivation — Wrong! Dr. Gesner was born in Switzerland in 1516 and along with his love of medicine, he also studied plants for their effect on medicine. He wrote a book on such, as well as leaving an unfinished book on the history of plants. He died a young man at the age of 49. It was not until some 130 years later that French botanist Charles Plumier suggested that Konrad Gesner's name be used for "our" family of plants.

Question: Do you have any brief suggestions for summer care of plants? Last year I lost several, of a very small collection. This year my collection has greatly expanded and I am concerned that my loss factor may be larger.

Answer: This could be the topic for an entire column, but there surely are a few general tips that will help all. If you have air-conditioning, be sure that the cold air does not blow directly on your plants. Using plastic pots instead of clay pots will help to prevent premature drying out. Many feel that it is a good idea to cut back on fertilizer in the summer, but that means cut back, not *eliminate*. No plant likes sudden, drastic changes in culture. If you have a fall show, then you may feel differently about this. Plants do not grow as much in the summer with excessive heat and humidity, so by reducing your feeding

amounts, you lessen your chances of fertilizer burn.

Question: I have recently purchased African violets from a grocery store and found dust all over the blossoms. The box of fertilizer that I also bought, had information on the African Violet Society of America. Upon remarking to a friend, she referred me to you, as you lived in an adjoining town.

Answer: I have received questions from many routes, but this was more or less the most direct route from a non-member, who by the way, is now joining AVSA! I answered this question — yes, once again, because there is not a single week that goes by that I do not receive more than one question about the dreaded problem of thrips. I feel it is necessary to duplicate questions several times in one year because of the ever-growing membership and also the fact that many read this column and retain those pieces of information pertinent to them at the time. I received questions in January on a topic covered extensively, in the November issue. Many have advocated the use of the wettable powdered Orthene, to be used at the amount of 2 teaspoons to one gallon of warm water. That treatment alone will not guarantee eradication, or for that fact, will any single recipe. When spraying for thrips, it must be



BEVERLY DECKER won Best in Show with her plant, 'Tiger,' at the San Diego Daytime AVS' show at Balboa Park, San Diego, CA.

done three times, one week apart and all buds and blossoms MUST be removed. Soil must also be drenched and the *bottom* sides of leaves must be sprayed as well as the top of the plant.

Question: Designing with African violet blossoms appears to be a very difficult adventure. I recently visited a violet show and enjoyed the arrangement section. I copied your name from a magazine on display. Can you help me so that I can give some pointers to my garden club members?

Answer: I referred this inquirer to several judges in her area. Our judges are a resource that not all clubs use as much as they should. A good judge can often find resources if he or she does not have the answer at hand. There is a book on the market, expressly done for designing with gesneriads and it can be obtained by writing to Ruth Jo McCoy, 605 Pringle Ave. Sp#44, Galt, CA 95632. I have just recently been given a copy of this publication and quite honestly have not had the time to read it thoroughly. I am told it has many good basic instructions and pictorial guidelines.

Question: Why do my fantasy blossom plants vary so much? I dearly love these plants, but cannot understand why they won't produce for my friends as they do for me.

Answer: Oh, to be able to give this lady the answer she is looking for. My first violet with fantasy traits was taken away to school and the dormitory maid "borrowed" leaves and then was quite indignant that I had somehow "cheated" her — she had not gotten the same plant. I won't tell you how many years ago that was (!), but the same problem exists today. There is no question that some fantasy blooms are more stable than others, but the fact that they exist at all is really a genetic accident. Some people seem to have clones that are better than others. I have a friend who has a magnificent example of 'Zapped' and it seems to produce well, but one of her other 'Zapped' products varies greatly and produces solid color babies!

Question: How do I go about finding varieties of plants that are pictured in the magazine. I am especially taken with the recent photo of 'Midget Midnight.'

Answer: Finding varieties requires a little detective work. You will have to write to commercial members, or phone them, if you wish, and inquire as to availability of the specific variety you are looking for. In this particular case, it is a lovely hybrid

created by Champion's Violets and you would probably be best served by writing to those that advertise having quantities of older varieties.

This is the busy time of the year for me with my other "hat" as your treasurer. Many of your letters may not be answered due to the quantity that seems to arrive after the holidays. Responding to over 100 letters that arrived in January will not be possible, as well as some of those that came in November and December. I try my best to take a sample of all, and also answer many in this column.

Thank you for the vote of confidence in me that these inquiries suggest.

Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Brown

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Oreland, PA 19075

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Beginner's Forum

Margaret Waguestack
334 Halsey Drive
Harahan, Louisiana

The adjective "flamboyant" might have been created especially for the Kohleria genus. Its species and hybrids are among the most fluorescent of the Gesneriaceae. The flower color ranges through light green, white, cream, pink, rose, red, orange, yellow, lavender, purple, magenta, and almost everything in-between — not all on the same blossom, of course! It is the combination of two or more of these colors and the patterns of contrasting spots and lines and patches which is so striking. Bright red or orange hairs or downy white fuzz add to the attractiveness of blooms and foliage. One of the best known species, *K. eriantha*, has its own special trademark, red edges on very dark leaves, and it has handed down this characteristic to its hybrids.

The genus, Kohleria, has been grown in Europe since the middle of the 19th century. Several years ago, I visited the Las Cruses Refuge in Costa Rica with a birding group. I asked R. G. Wilson a question about *Columnea florida* (now *Dalbergia florida*) which was growing in the garden. Realizing that I was interested in gesneriads, he brought out a very old book of botanical prints. Among the gesneriad prints were several Kohleria species. They were then known as Tydaea or Isoloma. Mr. Wilson, by the way, once owned Fantastic Gardens in Florida and introduced a number gesneriad species and hybrids to a gardening public that was just learning about them.

Kohleria popped up in another seemingly unrelated incident a few years later. I was trying to decide which Gould hummingbird print I wanted as a birthday gift. The plates aren't inexpensive, so I looked through them very slowly. Suddenly, I realized that the flower with one bird was a kohleria, as was another I found later! (Yes, I managed to get both!)

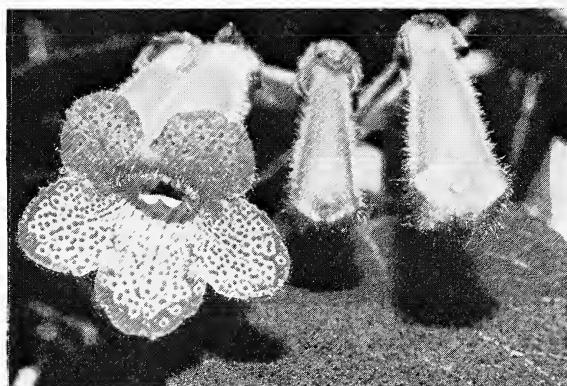
Kohleria species are found in Mexico and south through Central America and parts of South Amer-

ica. They are generally thought of as being rain forest plants but their habitat is one of definite wet and dry seasons. Their scaly rhizomes are formed to ensure survival of their species. It has been proven that, in the wild, rhizomes do not form unless the plant is stressed.

In his lecture at the New Orleans AGGS Convention, Lars Peter Kvist, who is studying the Kohleria genus in the wild, told us that some species grow where no other gesneriad can live - in the arid Magdelina River Valley in Colombia.

How, then, does this unusual gesneriad behave in "captivity"? Is it difficult? What does it need? How well will it tolerate your conditions?

Kohlerias under lights and in our greenhouses prefer less spartan conditions than those with which they live in the wild. Most do not grow on the dark, shadowy forest floor. They seem to prefer bright light and seek out road cuts and jungle clearings. They abhor soggy soil. When found near streams, they will be perched on banks where drainage is good. Do not, therefore, spoil them. A little benign neglect is better. Too wet a soil mix will result in rotted rhizomes and fibrous roots. Too much fertil-



Kohleria eriantha

izer at the wrong time (especially when the plants are not in active growth) may be toxic to the plant. The accumulation may cause what we know as "fertilizer burn." Too little light will give you a "vining" plant — weak vegetative growth. There will be poor foliage color and little, if any, bloom.

My plants under lights are grown with their foliage tops 4" from two 40-watt tubes — one Gro-lux Wide Spectrum and one Cool White. The plants in the greenhouse receive bright light and are situated where, during autumn, winter, and spring, they get about two hours of morning and late afternoon sun. In more northerly areas, they would probably enjoy more sun.

Many of the newer hybrids are almost ever-blooming. They also require only a short period of dormancy. If old, rag-tag foliage is removed at soil level; some will send up new growth immediately without being dried out and "rested." It is safer, however, after a long period of growth and bloom, to cut back the plants and allow them to dry out for a few weeks. It is possible that, without this drying out, the plant will not form rhizomes. I have had this happen to me! Where rhizomatous gesneriads are concerned, we tend to have an unwarranted feeling of security. While usually one finds a pot-full of husky rhizomes, an unhappy plant can produce none at all.

Until you have had some experience with growing kohlerias, you might be happier with the older tried-and-true varieties or with the newer hybrids, many of which are more compact, bloom more freely, and have shorter resting periods. Other factors to consider are your growing area (under lights or in a greenhouse), your soil mix, and method of fertilization (how much fertilizer, when, and how).

I'll begin with fertilizer, mainly because some growers turn pale with horror when they hear the word "wick." Apparently one doesn't constant-feed rhizomatous plants. First of all, I hear, "they stay too wet." They won't. At least, they won't if you use your head. Use only one strand of 4-ply synthetic yarn unless you are working with an 8 or 10 inch pot or basket. In that case, three or possibly four strands may be necessary. If the container is quite deep, I pull up the yarn an inch or two into the soil mix, but usually only a circle on the bottom of the pot is sufficient. After a week or so, you will be able to tell whether the medium is staying too wet and you can remedy the situation.

Along with the wicking, I constant-feed with

Peter's 20-20-20 (1/4 teaspoon/gallon water). Every fourth filling is with plain water. The potting mix is 1-1-1 (one part each peat moss, vermiculite, perlite — using the large vermiculite and perlite). I like to toss in a few handfuls of chopped sphagnum to aid in aerating the mix. I'm not exact with this since I sort of go by the "feel" of the medium, but I would say a small handful to a quart of the 1-1-1.

After our long, hot Louisiana summers, many of our gesneriads begin to perk up and look their best with the coming of cool weather. (That is why our local gesneriad show is usually held the first week in November.) Since the kohleria will be stimulated into new growth, I cut off the top growth after the show, empty the pots, and clean and separate the rhizomes. New pots are started for spring shows and sales. If you live farther north, you may find it is better to allow the plants to go dormant over winter and re-start them in the very early spring. Since most of my plants have a short period of dormancy, I like to enjoy them all winter ... and, by the way, don't be surprised at the size of the rhizomes in the pot!

Whenever you decide to empty the pots, don't be afraid to break the fat rhizomes. If you are dealing with a larger grower, one inch-long plump rhizome is all that's necessary for a 4-inch pot. Plant a stake next to the rhizome. You'll need the stake later to ensure proper growth, and by putting it in place now you don't take the chance of puncturing your rhizome later. I like to use 1/4 inch (diameter) dowels spray-painted dark green or brown. AGGS allows the use of unobtrusive stakes.

Unless your organization prohibits the use of more than one plant in the container, you may use the smaller growing species or hybrids to make a full pot of riotous color. Plant eight to ten rhizomes in an 8-inch hanging basket — or a larger one if your rhizome crop was plentiful. Don't stake or trim — just stand back and enjoy! *Kohleria 'Rongo'* and *K. 'Flirt'* are great to use this way as are others with a smaller growth habit and less than sturdy stems.

The most beautiful of all the kohlerias (my opinion!) is *K. eriantha*. I have been growing this one for about five years. Now I am told that the plant is probably a hybrid — apparently a hybrid that has been around for a long time. Well, species or hybrid, it is spectacular. It is a large grower with sturdy, upright stalks. The foliage is a very dark green with red edges. The leaves, stems, buds, and bloom are covered with thick red hairs. The flower is large with

a wide corolla face. Blossom color is orange-red or, as the *Kohleria Register* describes it, "cinnabar red." The lower lobes of the flower have a background of light yellow with the edges having the red coloring, and almost completely covered with circles, dots, and dashes of the same shade. Actually, it is almost impossible to describe!

This plant will bloom almost constantly. Its one fault is its size. That need not be a problem, however. *K. eriantha (hybrid)* and the other tall beauties can be made to bloom at manageable heights — as low as one foot — by cutting off the topmost six inches and rooting the cutting. In four to five months it will form a root system and send out flower buds. To give it a good start, I prepare a wicked 4" pot using my usual soil mix. In the center, I make a "well" about 1-1/2" deep and an inch in diameter. This is filled with moist, fine grade vermiculite and the cutting inserted just below a node and about an inch deep. A large plastic freezer bag is placed over it and held in place with three dowels cut to proper length. The bag is not closed entirely. The hairy stem and leaves hold a great deal of moisture and if there is no air movement, the rooting plant may rot. It is well, also, to place a stake in the pot when you plant the cutting so you will not, as I mentioned previously, injure the rhizome later.

A few of my compact favorites are: *K. 'Flirt,' 'Clown Prince,' 'Red Ryder'* (hybridized by Patrick Worley), and *'Clytie'* and *'Kapo'* (from Frances Batcheller).

I especially like *K. 'Lono'* (Frances Batcheller) which shows its *K. digitaliflora* heritage with its pale green corolla and red purple tube. This one is a medium-size plant.

K. 'Dark Velvet' (Wiehler) grows rather tall but its very dark leaves and red-spotted yellow face make it a striking plant.

K. lucianii, a very old hybrid recently introduced from Europe, should be fun to grow. My plant has not bloomed yet, but the description gives the flower color as crimson.

The AGGS *Gesneriad Registers*, by the way, are being updated. The new one on *Kohleria* came out last year. The booklets are invaluable references. For information, write: Anne Crowley, Publications Chairman, 88 Maynard St., Roslindale, MA 02131. References:

The Gloxinian - various issues.

"Gesneriads One by One" - Frances Batcheller

Various Gesneriad catalogs
The Miracle Houseplants - Elbert
AGGS *Gesneriad Register: Kohleria*

Important Notice: Senior Judges

If your Senior Judge certificate expires this year, you may apply for the renewal examination between June 1 and September 1, 1988. Allow up to two weeks for delivery. Write to Mrs. Frances King, 3327 28th St., San Diego, CA 92104. DO NOT SEND AN SASE. The fee is \$3.50 (make check payable to AVSA) and is all inclusive. The deadline for returning the completed examination for grading is October 1, 1988.

Those Advanced Judges who meet the requirements for applying for their first Senior Judge examination may send documentation of eligibility and \$3.50 check to Mrs. King. See the AVSA Handbook for requirements. Allow up to three weeks for delivery.

Applications postmarked after September 1, 1988 will be returned and application may be made next year. Completed exams postmarked after October 1, 1988 will not be graded. Allow three weeks or more (After October 1, 1988) for grading and return of examinations.

AVSA Booster Fund

Mrs. Linda A. Neumann
11620 Mapleridge Drive
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Green Thumb AVC, AR	10.00
Paumanok AVS, NY	10.00

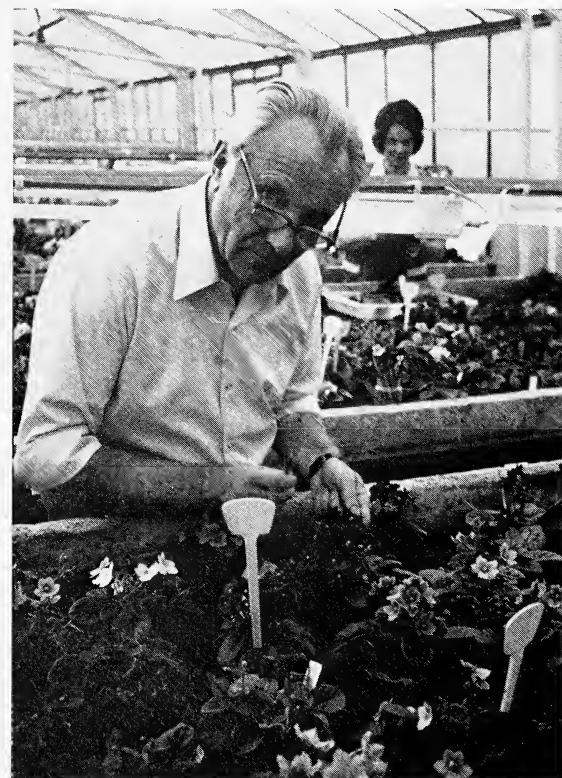
IN MEMORY

Hermann Holtkamp, Sr. Maria Holtkamp

On February 24, 1988, Hermann Holtkamp, Sr., died at the age of 84, in Rees-Haffen 4, in West Germany. He had been recognized as the father of today's African violet. His innovations ripple throughout the entire African violet world.

The photograph recaps our Grandfather's past 50 years of research and development in the African violet field. Since 1935, he devoted his life to the African violet, and laid the foundation for the well-known Rhapsodie and Optimara varieties.

When our great-grandfather, Martin Dorenbach, founded the Dorenbach Gartenbau in Isselburg, West Germany, in 1902, he did not visualize its growth to its current size. He specialized in vegetables and tobacco for the local townspeople of 3,000. When our grandfather, Hermann Holtkamp, Sr., met our grandmother, Maria Dorenbach, in



Hermann Holtkamp, Sr.

1928, he was given the ultimatum to enter the business to be able to marry our grandmother, or ...! His faith was set, and he had no choice but to follow the set path. In 1930, Maria gave birth to their first born, Rudolf; 1932 to their only daughter, Ruth; in 1935 to Reinhold, Sr., and in 1942 to Hermann, Jr.

In 1935, our grandfather started his life project of making the violet what it is today. With his great vision, he pictured, at the time, that this plant, the *Saintpaulia ionantha*, "will be the pot plant of the future..."

After the war, the established family business was completely destroyed, and after 6 months in a POW camp in Belgium, our grandfather returned to his hometown to resume the work he had left behind. With great efforts, he and Maria rebuilt the small family business. They grew vegetables, as they did before the war, in order to support the suppressed economy and the hungry townspeople. It did not take long for him to restart his breeding efforts for the African violet.

In 1951 his efforts paid off: the first gold medal ever to be awarded in the European tradeshow to the African violet, was given to our grandfather. He knew that his preconception about the success of the violet was true, and he continued his long journey of research and development.

The biggest step forward in development happened in the late 50s when his research created the first non-dropping violet flower. His creation, type #183, the first non-dropping variety, has been the foundation of today's violet.

Since then his research paid him over 400 international medals and awards, including the highest award possible, the Georg-Ahrends Gedächtnis-Münze. This award was founded in 1952, and has only been awarded to four other people since. It recognizes the greatest achievements in research and development in the horticultural field.

Hermann Holtkamp, Sr., was an active member of the Holtkamp K.G. and the Optimara Inventor Group, until last November when he became very sick at the age of 83. He gave up his estate in Dindgen and moved with his wife to Haffen, to live with their son, Hermann, Jr., and to be closer to the research

facilities of the Holtkamp K.G. located in Haffen.

On January 19, he wanted to visit the greenhouses, under all circumstances. He must have felt that this was to be the last time he would be able to visit his "children" in the research house. Two days later he fell into a coma from which he only recovered for a short time. He was never able to see his violets again, and on his birthday, February 24, the day the Lord had given him to us 84 years earlier, became the day he died.

Maria Holtkamp, supportive of her husband's work throughout all the years, died two days earlier, on February 22. They were buried together on Friday, the 26th, 1988, in their hometown, Isselburg. He never knew that our grandmother had died. Today, they meet again.

Shall their work never be forgotten. We try not to be sorry, but to be grateful for them having been part of our lives.

—Love, from all their grandchildren

Hazel Geissler & Madalene McGovern

The Pioneer Valley Chapter of the African Violet Society is saddened by the death of Hazel Geissler, December 9, 1987 and Madalene McGovern, who died one week later. The Pioneer Valley Chapter was organized in Massachusetts in 1952 and affiliated with AVSA in February 1975.

Both Hazel and Madalene were members of Bay State AVS and were 25-year members of Pioneer. Hazel was Treasurer and Madalene served as Sunshine Committee Chairman for many years. Both were loved by all and served the chapter diligently. They will both be missed.

IRA PICHON

The Alexandria African Violet Society of Alexandria, Louisiana, has lost one of its most valuable members. Mr. Ira Pichon died December 31, 1987.

Mr. Pichon was the AVSA representative for the Society and was very active in all activities. His work and cooperation in the society will be remembered forever.

MARVIN PLAIRE

Marvin Plaire of the First Lakeland African Violet Society of Florida, died February 12, 1988. He was a charter member of the club and was active in the African Violet Council of Florida. He was the convention treasurer when the Council hosted the

AVSA convention in Orlando in 1987.

He especially enjoyed growing achimenes, episias and streptocarpellas and shared freely with his rooted cuttings and rhizomes whenever he did a program on "the other gesneriads" for a club and donated several hundred of the streptocarpellas to the Orlando AVSA convention for table favors.

To know him was to love him.

CAROLYN TAYLOR

Granada Hills African Violet Society of California is mourning the sudden death of their current President, Carolyn Taylor, on February 17, 1988.

She was also a member of AVSA and the African Violet Council of Southern California. This was Carolyn's second term as president of GHAVS, and her kindness and helpfulness will be missed by all. Her husband, Wayne, and daughter, Marsha, intend to maintain her violet collection as a living memorial.

New Life Members of AVSA

New Life Members since the May 1987 issue of the AVM are:

Lt. Col. Susan Barbi, San Francisco, CA; Alena Blazkova, Nova Role, Czechoslovakia; Jack E. Cochran, Wagoner, OK; Flordeliza T. Dalipe, Los Angeles, CA.

Janice Doklovic, Mansfield, OH; Jeannette Domiano, Gretna, LA; Wanda Drew, Heyburn, ID; Suzuko Hashimoto, Hiroshima City, Japan.

Mrs. Masuko Hayashi, Tokyo, Japan; Mrs. Lisa Jewtushka, Ontario, Canada; Kirin Brewery Co., Tokyo, Japan; Thomas Kwong, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Virginia Linson, Grapevine, TX; Mrs. Nancy Marquardt, New Hyde Park, NY; Linda M. Marshall, Margate, FL.

Jo Anne Martinez, Tampa, FL; Cricket Muello, Holliston, MA; Mrs. Beverly Promersberger, Annandale, VA; Diane Richardson, Baltimore, MD; Mrs. M. A. Runham, N. Wales, UK.

Mrs. Janice K. Sadler, Westport, CT; Arlene Smith, Alberta, Canada; Mrs. Huong Todd, Garland, TX; Mrs. Bertrand Warren, Fall River, MA and Susan Wolfe, Flagstaff, AZ.

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



FIRST LAKELAND AVS, FL — "Tropical Lagoons." Betty McVicker, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Abigail Adams, French Lilac, Grandma's Zach, best in show, Grandma's Zach, sweepstakes (37 blue ribbons), Lea Plaire; 2nd best AVSA collection, Abigail Adams, French Lilac, Something Special, best trailer, Perk Up, Chris Howell; 2nd best in show, Little Pro, Nancy Smith; best design, "Seascape," Claudette Brown; best miniature, Little Rose Quartz, Carol Schreck; best semi, Lavender Kisses, Barbara Courson; best gesneriad, Episcia Corduroy, Elsie Turner.

UPPER PINELLAS AVS, FL — "A Rainbow of Violets." Leonard Waller, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Wonderland, Rocky Mountain, Lavender Tempest, 2nd best in show, Lavender Tempest, Martha Tracy; 2nd best AVSA collection, Splendiferous, Mikado Red, Silver Lining, sweepstakes, Peggy Waller; best in show, Precious Pink, best semi, Precious Pink, Selma Halequa; best design, "A Rainbow Gods Promise," Jean Schemel; best trailer, Snowy Trail, Dorothy Hann; best miniature, Mickey Mouse, Ernestine Infinger; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Leslie, Mollie Howell.

NASA AREA AVS, TX — "Violets N' Lace." Clifford Bang, show chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Apache Celebration, Wrangler's Celebration, Something Special, Wayne Geeslin; 2nd best AVSA collection, Precious Pink, Bogeyman, Tip Top, Irene Scharunovych; best in show, Tiger, Melba Bradbery; best in design, "Hearts and Flowers," Ann Stiefel; 2nd best in show, Kathie Denise, best trailer, Twice Pink, sweepstakes, Charlsie Urquhart; best miniature, Mickey Mouse, best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Blue Mars, Tom SoRelle; best semi, Litta, Ona Lee McQuen.

MID-POLK AVS, FL — "Violets in Swingtime." Rita Hilton & Judy Partain, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Wrangler's Jealous Heart, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, Ness's Hey Jude, best in show, Swampland, 2nd best in show, Ness's Hey Jude, best trailer, Cherokee Trails, best miniature, Timid Teen, best semi, Winnergreen, sweepstakes, Rita Hilton; 2nd best AVSA collection, Pixilation, Happy Cricket, Just Whisper, Janet DuCharme; best design, "Swing and Hit," Hazel Miller.

BERGEN COUNTY AVS, NJ — "Stagestruck." Fred G. Hill, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Ballet Marta, Chris Leppard, Margaret Joan, best in show, Chris Leppard, Henrikas Januskevicius; 2nd best in show, Maas' Legacy, best semi, Sweet Treat, Lorraine Dwyer; best design, "Mobile," best trailer, Cool Mint, best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Electra, sweepstakes, Fred C. Hill; best miniature, Toy Asset, Eunice Meister.

MIRACLE STRIP AVS OF PANAMA CITY, FL — "Flying Down To Rio." Sharron A. Wright, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Wrangler's Margaret Vallin, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Fisherman's Paradise, best in show, Fisherman's Paradise, best miniature, Snuggles, best semi,

Magic Blue, best gesneriad, E. Tiger, Ed Woody; 2nd best AVSA collection, Fisherman's Paradise, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Marshlands, 2nd best in show, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Edna Woody; best design, "Bay of Rio De Janerio," Crystal Huebscher.

HEART OF DIXIE AVS, AL — "Vacation With Violets." Vince Vincent, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, Pride of Enterprise, Pioneer Spirit, best in show, Snow Rose, best gesneriad, Strep. Captain's Blood, sweepstakes (48 blue ribbons), Vince Vincent; 2nd best AVSA collection, Melissa Anne, Nancy Reagan, Wrangler's Silver Spurs, Ruth Buie; 2nd best in show, Aca's Eye Knees, Dorothy Strickland; best design, best miniature, Petite Rose, best semi, Snuggles, Christie Thornley.

MAGIC CITY AVS, AL — "Violet Magic." Mrs. C. F. von Herrmann, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Pitty Pal, Blamey, Sir Charles, best in show, Sir Charles, 2nd best in show, Blamey, best trailer, Pixie Blue, best miniature, Hugalug, best semi, Pay Dirt, sweepstakes, Kay Rice; best design, "Natural Beauty," Betty Conger; best gesneriad, Columnea, Mrs. C. F. von Herrmann.

SAN JOAQUIN AVS, CA — "A Rhapsody In Violets." Susan Bastianelli and Ruth Jo McCoy, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Something Special, Jason, Do De, best in show, Maas' Mary Lou, 2nd best in show, Little Pro, best trailer, Sky Diver, best semi, Little Pro, sweepstakes (horticulture), Doris Weaver; 2nd best AVSA collection, Something Special, Zaca's Fantah, Splendiferous, best design, "Red Sails in the Sunset," best gesneriad, Strep. Athena, Susan Bastianelli; best miniature, Li'l Tease, sweepstakes (design), Vera Parker.

BATON ROUGE AVS, LA — "Violets Light Up My Life." Nancy David, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Granger's Ming Blue, Optimara Louisiana, Aluminum Foil, best miniature, Ruby Slippers, Nellois Gremillion; 2nd best AVSA collection, Greg, Fickle Flirt, Joelle, sweepstakes, Denise Lindly; best in show, Snuggles, best semi, Snuggles, Teresa Kent; 2nd best in show, Pixie Luv, best trailer, Pixie Luv, Fran Spear; best design, "You Light Up My Life," best gesneriad, Ne-manathus Freckles, Josie Ragausa.

AVS OF PENSACOLA, FL — "Violets - Nature's Palette." Estelle Starr, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Pens Secret, Astral Peace, Mauna Loa, 2nd best in show, Suncoast Fanta-Sea, George Starr; 2nd best AVSA collection, Astral Macro, It's Only Natural, Granger's Desert Dawn, Estelle Starr; best in show, Perhaps Love, best miniature, Rhythm Rascal, best semi, Beginner's Luck, sweepstakes, Louise Merritt; best design, "In The Abstract," Peggy Walsh; best trailer, Semi Cirelda, Jean Jones; best gesneriad, Strawberry Fields, Lyn Diane-Harris.

SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AVS, CA — "Super Bowl of Violets." Beverly Decker, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Tiger, best Calif. hybrid, Ms Pretty, Beverly Decker; 2nd best in

show, Mickey Mouse, best miniature, Mickey Mouse, Betty Roberson; best design, "Touchdown," Marie Blanks; best gesneriad, Episcia Cleopatra, Virginia Myrick.

THE VIOLET PATCH OF BROWARD COUNTY, FL

— "Love In Bloom." Marilyn Goldstein, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Dandy Mandy, Fogbound, Kool Kay, 2nd best in show, Fogbound, Dale Lanhardt; 2nd best AVSA collection, Michiko, Chiffon Print, Do De, best miniature, Sun Pumpkin, best semi, Precious Pink, sweepstakes, Jennifer Kellum; best in show, First Child Sport, best gesneriad, Episcia Moonlight Valley, best trailer, Santa Fe Trail, Marilyn Goldstein; best design, Anniversary Waltz, Leticia Potter.

MONTGOMERY AVS & CAPITOL CITY AVS, AL —

"We Celebrate: 25 Years of African Violets." Peg Phythyon, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Granger's Wonderland, Ernest Fisher, Pride of Enterprise, best in show, Little Pro, 2nd best in show, Pride of Enterprise, best trailer, Moonlight Trail, best semi, Little Pro, best gesneriad, Columnea Aflame, Peg Phythyon; 2nd best AVSA collection, Her Majesty, Lucky Lucille, Sunbonnet Sue, best miniature, Cari, sweepstakes, Barbara Strock; best design, "A Touch of Silver," Doris Till.

TAMPA AVS, FL — "Violets 9 To 5." Mrs. Lucille Chester, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Autumn Honey, Tiger, Nortex's Snowfrill Haven, best in show, Autumn Honey, 2nd best in show, Tiger, best in design, "Arts & Crafts," Cheryl Hukle; 2nd best AVSA collection, Fisherman's Paradise, Black Ace, Autumn Fancy, best semi, Dolled Up, Norma Leto; best trailer, Sea Spray, best gesneriad, Episcia Chocolate & Cherries, sweepstakes, Jo Anne Martinez; best miniature, Sprightly, Diane Heras.

TOP CHOICE AVS, LA — "The Magical Splendor of Violets." Annette Westbrook, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Midnight Romance, Bonnie Leigh, Fisherman's Paradise, best in show, Midnight Romance, 2nd best in show, French Lilac, best design, "Reflections," best trailer, Snowy Trail, best miniature, Little Sapphire, sweepstakes, Bobby Morgan; 2nd best AVSA collection, Solo, Optimara Barbados, Fisherman's Paradise, Fem Hicks; best semi, Snuggles, Viola Chandler; best gesneriad, E. Cleopatra, Annette Westbrook.

AVA GARDENERS, FL (AV Association of Gardeners) — "Violets For All Seasons." Alyce Droege, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Rob's Soliloquy, Snuggles, Petite Rose, 2nd best in show, Rob's Soliloquy, best miniature, Rob's Soliloquy, best semi, Little Pro, best gesneriad, Wood Nymph, sweepstakes, Alyce Droege; 2nd best AVSA collection, Half Moon Bay, Val's Sweet Dream, Blushing, Alice Davis; best in show, Optimara Happy Harlequin, Barbara Robinson; best design, "Winter Fantasy," Bob Green; best trailer (tie) Teeny Bopper, Alyce Droege and Fantasy Island, Marta Davis.

ATCHAFAHALAYA AVS, LA — "Violets - A Dutch Treat." Y. George Ramirez, Jr., chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Marshland, Ming Blue, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, George Ramirez; 2nd best AVSA collection, Splendiferous, Happy Cricket, Frances Young, best in show, Tamapalais Trail, best trailer, Tamapalais Trail, best gesneriad, Sinningia Jiminey Cricket, sweepstakes, Martha Dyson; 2nd best in show, Apache Fire, Janis Guarisco; best design, "Hans Brinker of the Silver Skates," Alice Ramirez; best semi, Summer Song, Judy Fuselier.

POMONA VALLEY AVS, CA — "Violets Go Prime Time." Marna Music, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Ms Pretty, Alamo Red, Matecumbe, Adelaide Kory; 2nd best AVSA collection, Ann, Wrangler's Jealous Heart, Ballet Anna, 2nd best in show, Ballet Anna, Ann Swift; best in show, Desert

Dawn, best trailer, Dancin' Trail, Cathie Chambers; best in design, "L.A. Law," Cindy Myers; best miniature, Mickey Mouse, best semi, Pay Dirt, best gesneriad, Strawberry Fields Kohleria, sweepstakes, Iris Keating.

AVS OF MINNESOTA — "Imagination With Violets." Dolores Harrington, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, Twilight Glo, Mary Craig, Palma Trapp; 2nd best AVSA collection, Snuggles, Magic Blue, Irish Angel, 2nd best in show, Snuggles, best miniature, Timid Teen, best semi, Snuggles, Elizabeth Frigstad; best in show, Optimara Maui, Ken Rien; best trailer, Pink Star Lou Trail, sweepstakes, Jude Neumann; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Athene, Opal Hunter.

AVS OF GREATER TULSA, OK — "Once Upon A Time With Violets." Linda Jo McGaha, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Grandmother's Halo, Angel Fare, Night Rider, best in show, Grandmother's Halo, best miniature, Rob's Soliloquy, best semi, Pay Dirt, sweepstakes, Linda Bjorkman; 2nd best AVSA collection, Miss Amy Harris, Sasha, Granger's Wonderland, Dorothy Harris, 2nd best in show, My-o-My, Linda Jo McGaha; best in design, "In The Land of Dragons, Dungeons, Princesses & Queens," best gesneriad, Episcia Reptans, Jeanne Cotton; best trailer, Redwood Trail, Edna McCawley.

HATTIESBURG AV CLUB, MS — "Simply Violets." Jane Wicht, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Little Pro, best semi, Little Pro, Jane Wicht; best design, "Simply Violets," Bill



Winners of the Bergen County AVS show held in Ridgefield, NJ were Henrikas Januskevicius, winner of Best AVSA collection and Best in Show, 'Chris Leppard,' Lorraine Dwyer, 2nd Best in Show, 'Maas's Legacy,' and Fred Hill, sweepstakes winner with 3rd Best in Show, 'Nortex's Snowfrill Haven.'

Lundy; best miniature, Lilliput, Ricky Winstead; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus seedling, Tommie Oden; best trailer, Moon Trail, sweepstakes, Lucy Wood.

AVFANCIERS, INC., IL — "African Violets - Out Of This World." Lucille Losiewski, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snuggles, Precious Pink, Snuggles Delight, best in show, Gypsy Fire, best design, "Satellite Dish," best trailer, Jet Trail, best miniature, Petite Dolly, best semi, Cherry Hill, best gesneriad, Episcia Silver Skies, sweepstakes, Florise Hogan; 2nd best AVSA collection, Square Dancer, Wrangler's Jealous Heart, Jilly Bean, Helen Recoy; 2nd best in show, Oklahoma, Lucille Losiewski.

AVS OF TUCSON, AZ — "Jewels of the Desert." Sue Sacco, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Robert Mac, Wrangler's Jealous Jewels, Moonflower, best in show, Pawnee, Julie Peyton; 2nd best AVSA collection, Wrangler's Red Bandana, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, Robert Mac, Ruth Over; best trailer, Falling Snow, Jean Scheibe; best miniature, Little Sunset, best semi, Beginner's Luck, Dorothy Greer; best gesneriad, Pink Brocade, Paule Elliott.

THE EDMONTON AVS, CANADA — "Back To Africa." Mrs. L. Mitchell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Summer Song, Frilly Dilly, Rob's Blue Night, 2nd best AVSA collection, Homer's Hospitality, Fairy Prince, Quirk, best in show, Western Trail, 2nd best in show, Margaret's Price, best trailer, Western Trail, best miniature, Fairy Tales, best semi, Royal Baby, gest gesneriad, Columnea Sylvia, sweepstakes, M. V. Jarratt; best design, "African Treasures," Fran Graham.

CORPUS CHRISTI AVS, TX — "Once Upon A Time With Violets." Glenda Ehrlich, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Autumn Lou, Dolled Up, Pay Dirt, best semi, Dolled Up, Virginia Thompson; 2nd best AVSA collection, Carmen, Marie Knoblock, Nancy Reagan, Jeanette Kocurek; best in show, Splendiferous, 2nd best in show, Something Special, Glenda Ehrlich; best design, "Tinkerbell," best gesneriad, Columnea Snake Charmer, Sarah Stensland; best miniature, Dawn Michelle, Larry Scott; sweepstakes, Kay Bircher.

SPRING BRANCH AVC, TX — "African Violets Go To The Movies." Mae Dennison, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Antique Elegance, Dewberry Wine, Joelle, 2nd best in show, Dancin' Trail, best trailer, Dancin' Trail, sweepstakes, Gerri Goins; 2nd best AVSA collection, Rob's Blue Light, Precious Pink, Trinket Seas, best miniature, Merrilee, best semi, Precious Pink, best in show, Dewberry Wine, Betty Moss; best design, "The Color Purple," Mae Dennison; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Hybrid, J. C. Munk.

SOUTH COAST AVS, CA — "Vote For Violets." Virginia C. Lemm, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Swift Thriller, Mary D, Blue Excitement, George Crouch; 2nd best AVSA collection, Grandma's Zack, Magnolia, The King, best in show, Perhaps Love, sweepstakes, Marilee Beam; best design, "A Watered Down Platform," Toni Breden; best trailer, Wood Trail, Ralph Breden; best miniature, Wee Dreamer, best semi, Irish Angel, Hans Inpijn; best gesneriad, Columnea Marsden Flame.

AVS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, MO — "My Heart Belongs To Violets." Wayne Shupp, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, Granger's Wonderland, Optimara Missouri, Wayne Shupp; 2nd best AVSA collection, Litta, Magic Blue, Aca's Merry Mary, Jim Britton; best in show, Wrangler's Winter Holiday, 2nd best in show, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, sweepstakes, Sue Hill; best design, "Sweet Memories," Patty Hart; best trailer, Snowy Trail, best gesneriad, P. Sinnigina,

Molly Blacketer; best miniature, Think Twice, Johnnie Proctor; best semi, Snuggles, Carol Allinson.

BRAZOS VALLEY AVC, TX — "Violets Along The Shores." Flora DeSavigny, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Something Special, Pink Energy, Kiwi Dazzle, best in show, Kiwi Dazzle, 2nd best in show, Snow Rose, Kyle Coleman; best AVSA collection (commercial), Something Special, Magnolia, Antique Elegance, Dottie Wilson; best design, "Sea Shells," best semi, Crushed Velvet, Linda Ray; best trailer, Cherokee Trail, sweepstakes, Naomi Nolan; best miniature, Alan's Valley Girl, Judy DiMichelle; best gesneriad, Episcia Rose Gold, Ruth Goeke.

RAYNE AVS, LA — "Violet Party." Leora Peres, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Bertha, Proud Country, Something Special, best miniature, Little Princess, Leora T. Peres; best in show, Bertha; 2nd best in show, Marshland, best design, "Baby Shower," Letie Guidry; best trailer, Dancin' Trail, sweepstakes (53 blue ribbons), Lucy Menard.

COMING EVENTS

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Lower Bucks County's 14th show/sale, "Violets 'R' Us," Oxford Valley Mall, Wanamaker's Court, Rt. 1, Langhorne. Apr. 30, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 1, noon - 6 p.m. Free admission. Joyce McMullen, show chairman.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 ILLINOIS — Twin Cities AVS' show, "Down Violet Lane," Miller Park Pavilion, Bloomington. Donna Willett, chairman.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 CONNECTICUT — Naugatuck AVS' show/sale, "Highways, Biways, and Violets," Boothe Memorial Park Hall, Main Street (Putney), Stratford. (Exit 53S off the Merritt Parkway. Apr. 30, 1 - 4 p.m.; May 1, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mrs. Albert J. Rourke, show chairman. Public invited, free admission. Door prizes awarded each day.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 NEW YORK — New York AVS' show/sale; Horticultural Society of New York, 128 W. 58th, New York City. Apr. 30, noon - 5 p.m.; May 1, 1 - 6 p.m. Donation. Stan Furman, show chairman; Mark Grigalunas, president.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 NEW YORK — AVS of Syracuse's 34th show/sale, "Violets In Toyland," Penn Can Shopping Mall, N. Syracuse, Rt. 81 north, exit 29N. Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 1, noon - 5 p.m. Mrs. Janet Fergerson, show chairman, 315-699-7774.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 WISCONSIN — Crosstown AV Club's show/sale, East Towne Mall, E. Washington Ave., near 190. Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; May 1, noon - 4 p.m. Kathleen Dodge, president.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 PENNSYLVANIA — AVS of Philadelphia's 29th show, "African Queen," Plymouth Meeting Mall, Germantown Pike and Hickory Road, Plymouth Meeting. Apr. 30, 1 - 9:30 p.m.; May 1, noon - 4:30 p.m. Enid Branson & Susan Hanna, co-chairmen.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 CALIFORNIA — Ventura County AVS' show/sale, "Feast Your Eyes On Violets," Centerpoint Mall, corner of Channel Islands Blvd. & Saviers Rd., Oxnard.

Apr. 30, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; May 1, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Florence Naylor, show chairman. For more information call 1-800-541-5471.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 MISSOURI — Sho-Me AVC's sixth annual show/sale, "African Violets, American Style," Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Rebecca Poindexter, show chairman.

APRIL 30 & MAY 1 NEW YORK — Paumanok AVS' show/sale, "Go For The Gold," Elwood Middle School, Elwood Rd., E. Northport. Apr. 30, 2 - 6 p.m.; May 1, noon - 5 p.m. Esther Lowenthal, chairman.

MAY 5 - 7 OHIO — Violets & Friends Club's first show/sale, "All That Glitters Isn't Gold - Some Of It Is Violets," Piqua East Mall, Route 36 & I-75, Piqua. May 5, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 6, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mrs. Carl Brown, show chairman; Mrs. Norman Bradney, president.

MAY 5 - 7 OHIO — Tri-City AVS' show, Piqua East Mall, W. St. Rd. 36 & West Ash St., Piqua. Mall hours, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Show closes at 5 p.m., Sat. Free admission.

MAY 5 - 7 MICHIGAN — Mid-Michigan AVC's show/sale, "Silver Jubilee," Rogers Plaza, 1110 28th S.W., Wyoming. There will be a junior division for 12 years old or younger. For more information contact Deb Vazquez, 912 Fairfield N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504, 616-453-2503.

MAY 6 & 7 CALIFORNIA — AVS of South Bay's show, "African Violet Queens," Valco Fashion Park, Hwy. 280 & Wolfe Rd., Cupertino. May 6, 2 - 9 p.m.; May 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Mrs. Irene Thomas, show chairman.

MAY 6 & 7 OHIO — Parmatown AVC's show/sale, "National Parks and Violets," Pammatown Mall, Ridge Rd. and Ridgewood Dr., Parma. May 6, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 7, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Ed Gohr, show chairman.

MAY 6 & 7 MARYLAND — Baltimore AVC's show/sale, "Grandma Grew Violets," Towson Market Place, Joppa Rd. & Putty Hill Ave., Towson. May 6, 1 - 9:30 p.m.; May 7, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, free admission. Janet Haag & Charles Cohen, cochairmen.

MAY 6 & 7 WYOMING — Sheridan AVC's show/sale, "Sheridan County's Centennial For Violets," St. Peter's Episcopal Church Hall, Sheridan. May 6, 5 - 8 p.m.; May 7, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Vera Schonembach, chairman.

MAY 6 & 7 NORTH CAROLINA — First Goldsboro AVS' show, "Treasure Chest of African Violets," Berkeley Mall, Berkeley Blvd., Goldsboro. Both days, 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. For more information contact: Frances Deans, 919-778-3179.

MAY 6 & 7 TENNESSEE — Mid-South AVS' show sale, "Violets Go To Disneyland," Mall of Memphis, I-240 & Perkins. For more information call Judy Ellis, 901-377-9116 or Martha Page, 901-363-8609.

MAY 6 & 7 NEW JERSEY — AV Club of Trenton's show, "On The Wagon" (last show was "Intoxicated With Violets"), Grace St. Pauls Episcopal Church, East State Street Ext., Mercerville. May 6, 2 - 9 p.m.; May 7, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Gary Thurman, show chairman.

MAY 6 & 7 ILLINOIS — Rockford AVC's show/sale, Colonial Village Mall during regular mall hours. Public invited, free admission.

MAY 6 & 7 CANADA — The Calgary AVS' show/sale, "Love Those Violets," North Hill Shopping Centre. May 6, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 7, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mrs. Ingrid Nelson, chairman.

MAY 6 - 8 KANSAS — Bright Petals AVS' show/sale, "Violets on the Santa Fe Trail," Holiday Inn Gold Room, 3017 W. 10th, Great Bend. May 6, 1 - 7 p.m.; May 7, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.; May

8, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. Winnie Ashley, show chairman; Alvin Otte, president.

MAY 7 TEXAS — AV Study Club of Houston's exhibit/sale, Westwood Mall, intersection of the Southwest Freeway (Hwy. 59) and Bissonnet, Houston. Geri Goins, chairman.

MAY 7 NEBRASKA — Metropolitan AVS of Omaha's exhibit/sale, Southroads Mall, Hwy. 75, Bellevue. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MAY 7 CALIFORNIA — Granada Hills AVS' display/sale, The Town Hall Room, Balboa-Mission Shopping Center, 16916 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Granada Hills. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission.

MAY 7 GEORGIA — Chattahoochee Valley AVS' show/sale, Columbus Square Mall, Macon Rd., Columbus, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public invited. Polly Crutchfield, show chairman.

MAY 7 TORONTO — Lakeshore AVS' show/sale, "Violets Through The Looking Glass," Sherway Gardens, Queensway & West Mall. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission fee, \$1, public welcome.

MAY 7 & 8 IOWA — Quad City AVS' show/sale, Duck Creek Plaza, Bettendorf. Public invited, free admission.

MAY 7 & 8 VIRGINIA — Tidewater AVS' sixth show/sale, "Around The World With Violets," Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Norfolk. Take airport exit off I-64 and follow signs to the gardens. May 7, 2:30 - 5 p.m.; May 8, noon - 4 p.m. Entrance to the gardens is \$2, show is free. For more information contact: Carol Van, show chairman, 314 Falmouth Turning, Hampton, VA 23669 or 804-851-2543. Catherine A. Carter, president.

MAY 7 & 8 UTAH — AVS of Utah's show, "Once Upon A Violet," 1602 East 2100 South, Salt Lake City. May 7, 1:30 - 6 p.m.; May 8, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Betty Jacobsen, Ruthann Lloyd, show chairmen.

MAY 7 & 8 ILLINOIS — Lake Shore AVS' exhibit/sale, "Our Violet Tribute to Mother," Chicago Botanic Gardens, Lake Cook Road, Glenco. Both days, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Parking \$2, free admission.

MAY 13 & 14 MISSISSIPPI — Chimneyville AVS' show/sale, "Violets, God's Gift," Metro Mall Center, Hwy. 80, W. Jackson. May 13, 1 - 9 p.m.; May 14, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Dr. Charles Sledge & Ms. Judy Williams, cochairmen. Mrs. Dorothy Screws, president.

MAY 13 & 14 SOUTH CAROLINA — First AVS of Spartanburg's show/sale, "Carousel of Violets," Hillcrest Mall, May 13, noon - 9 p.m.; May 14, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mrs. Jessie Dennis, show chairman.

MAY 13 - 15 SOUTH CAROLINA — Flowertown VC of Summerville's show/sale, "Clowning Around With Violets," Northwoods Mall, Hwy. 52, North Charleston, regular mall hours, May 13 & 14, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 15, noon - 9 p.m. Free admission. Dee Short, show chairman.

MAY 14 & 15 MISSOURI — The Unpredictable's AVS' show/sale, "Springtime Violettine," Days Inn Motel, I-70 & 7 Hwy., Blue Springs. Sue Hill & Dee Low, cochairmen.

MAY 14 & 15 ILLINOIS — Suburban AV Enthusiasts' (S.A.V.E.) sale/display, Bremertowne Mall, 159th St. & Oak Park Ave., Tinley Park.

MAY 15 WISCONSIN — Oshkosh AVS' 8th annual show/sale, "Musical Violets - Opus '88," Park Plaza Mall, downtown Oshkosh. Noon - 4:30 p.m. Public invited. Kevin Degner, show chairman, 414-426-3764.

MAY 18 WASHINGTON — Longview AVC's show/sale, "Violets and Old Lace," Parks and Recreation Building, 2920 Douglas St., Longview. 1 - 4 p.m. Pat Smith, president.

MAY 20 - 22 CALIFORNIA — Nite Bloomers AVC's show/sale, "Disney's Violets," New Park Mall, Hwy. 880 at Stevenson Blvd., Newark. May 20, 2 - 9 p.m.; May 21, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; May 22, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Barbara Szajouski, show chairman. Demonstrations will be given on culture and raising of African violets.

MAY 20 - 25 JAPAN — Japan International Saintpaulia Society's 17th show, Keio Department Store, 8F (Grand Hall), Shinjuku, Tokyo. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free admission. For more information contact: Susumu Shizakawa, Apt. 202, 5-3-1, Yagumo Meguro-ku, Tokyo, Japan 152, (03)-718-3520.

MAY 21 & 22 CALIFORNIA — Heartland AVS' show, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. May 21, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; May 22, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mrs. Elaine Rieck & Mrs. Mary Jo Caufield, cochairmen.

MAY 28 & 29 CALIFORNIA — AVS of San Francisco's show/sale, "Violet Memories," San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Ave. and Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park. May 28, 2 - 5 p.m.; May 29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Gary R. Beck, chairman.

JUNE 4 CALIFORNIA — Pinole AVS' display/sale, "A Kaleidoscope of African Violets," Creekside Lodge, 13596 San

Pablo Ave., San Pablo. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission. For information call: 415-222-1969.

JUNE 11 & 12 MISSOURI — Metropolitan St. Louis AVS Council's 34th show/sale, "Violets Out of Africa," Floral Display Hall of the Ridgway Center, Missouri Botanical (Shaw's) Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis. Both days, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mrs. Ardath Miller, show chairman.

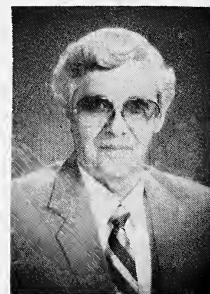
JUNE 24 & 25 GEORGIA — The Georgia AV Growers Club's first show, "Violets and Butterflies," Dublin Mall, Dublin, during mall hours. Joan Cumpston, president.

JUNE 24 - 26 ALASKA — Aurora Borealis AVS' show/sale, "A Decade of Violets," Northway Mall, Anchorage, during regular mall hours. Open to public, free admission. For more information contact: Amelia Walsh, show chairman, 907-276-2013.

OCTOBER 27 - 29 SOUTH AFRICA — Transvaal African Violet Society's show/sale, "Out of Africa-Violets," emphasis on species. For more information contact: Joan Halford, show chairman, Box 760, PYRAMID, 0120 Transvaal, Republic of South Africa.

AVSA AFFILIATES

*Bill Foster
Affiliate Chairman
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, TX 75150*



Well, here we are with 1988 almost half gone! We hope that your "Grand Reunion in Texas" was an entertaining and joyful experience. We here in Texas certainly enjoyed having "ya'll," but it is also nice to have it behind us so we can look forward to Kansas City and a nice relaxing visit.

Most of your spring shows are now history and I am sure you had some beautiful ones. There were fewer shows this year because Texas has a large number of affiliates and most of them dispensed of their shows for 1988 in order to participate in the Dallas convention. This was greatly appreciated because the convention needed their show plants, but also needed the help of all our Texas members. The convention city was Dallas, but it should be clearly understood that it was the TEXAS CONVENTION.

I managed to keep my head above water with the schedules and mailing of the show packets, by sheer determination! As soon as the mail brought them, I would read them, approve or reply to the show chairman, log them, and prepare the package for

mailing.

For me, the schedules are such a pleasure to read. A number of you did get letters from me suggesting a few changes in your design division. I believe you should have as much freedom as possible in writing your schedules — this is a way for your members to express themselves in their designs — but there are a few basic rules we need to follow.

The horticulture area of almost all of the schedules are fine, except for an occasional error in Novel Container classes. I feel that quite a few people writing the schedules do not have the latest Handbook. A number of schedules appear to still be using the past Handbook to write the Design Division. Many of you are still using "Artistic Plantings," which no longer exists. Some of you use "Interpretive Plant Arrangements," but then give the description of the old Artistic Plantings. I strongly suggest that if your club does not have a copy of the latest Handbook, they should get one.

Have a glorious summer and I'll talk to you again in September.

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210

"The illusion that times that were better than times that are, has probably pervaded all ages," said Horace Greeley.

An historical look at man's progress through the centuries, however, reveals an upward trend, always upward. The way has not been smooth or straight. As Lincoln said, "times may be piled high with difficulty."

With the national economy as it is, each of us has to decide how to plan our finances, as we have always had to do. In so, so many ways, we as a people are far better off than we have ever been.

The Building Fund drive of AVSA was destined to happen at some time or other, because of the place it would hold in the stability of the organization. We are on our way up in our goals, and the future of a "home" of our own is inevitable.

So, think about it, and decide where your loyalties are. It is to be hoped you will give what you see fit toward our goal.

It was Winston Churchill who said, "We make a living by what we get, but make a life by what we give." Anne Tinari's generous offer of her delightful book, "Our African Violet Heritage" is a shining example of giving. I am proud to own a copy and have shared its beauty and information with many people.

December, 1987

(donations received from November 25 through December 26)

Burbank AVS, CA	\$25.00
New York State AVS Judge's Council	35.00
First AVS of San Antonio, TX	50.00
Pied Pipers AV Club of St. Louis, MO	100.00
Northern California Council of AVS	350.00
Nancy G. Hayes, CT in memory of Edward St. Aubin	10.00
Mrs. Iris L. Keating, CA in lieu of speakers fee from Foothill AVS	20.00
High Hopes VC of South Atlanta, GA	30.00
Green Thumb AVS of Nashville, GA	10.00
Putnam AVC, NY	20.00
Don L. Thomburg, CA	10.00
Tristate AV Council, NJ in lieu of travel expense for judging by DE and PA AVSA judges	20.00

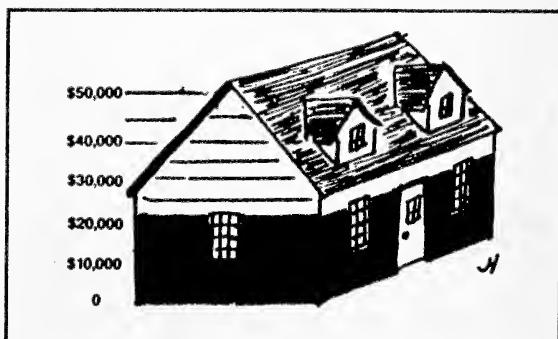
Long Island AVS, NY	
in lieu of speakers fee by Gail Putkas	15.00
San Diego Daytime AVS, CA	100.00
Town and Country AVS, CA	25.00
Wachusett AVS, MA	25.00
AVS of Charlotte, NC	50.00
Flint River AVS of Albany, GA	5.00
Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers, CO	20.00
AVS of Philadelphia, PA	100.00
Quad Cities AVS, LA	100.00
June Fallaw, CA	15.00
Beaumont AVS, TX	
Christmas gift to Building Fund	28.50
Queen City AVS, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada	5.00

For the month of December, affiliates qualifying (and requesting) the offer by Enterprises Press for Pauline Bartholomew's book, "Growing To Show," as shown on page 27 of the September AVM are: Brazos Valley AVC, TX; AVSA Judges Council of So. Calif.; Paumanok AVS, NY; San Marcos AVC, TX; AVS of San Francisco, CA; Casper Bloomers AVC; WY; Putnam AVS, NY; AVS of Hawaii; Pied Pipers AVC, MO and Northern Calif. AV Council.

January, 1988

(donations received from December 26 through January 25)

Mary's Violet Joy, KS in honor of Marian Mages of LA	\$10.00
AVS of Palo Alto, CA	58.44
Suburban AV Enthusiasts, IL collected from members by use of house-shaped bank	34.70
Richmond AVS, VA grocery chain, celebrating 50th anniversary, gave 2% of receipts to non-profit organization. 15 club members anticipated, celebrating club's 40th anniversary	217.50
Don L. Thomburg, CA	10.00
Jo Ann Lloyd of Lloyd's African Violets, NY, in memory of husband, Eugene Lloyd	25.00
Delbrook AVS, British Columbia	10.00



Brew City Violeteers, WI	
in memory of Adeline Krogman	10.00
Mid-County Saint Paulians, TX	50.00
Nassau AVS, NY	
in lieu of speakers fee by Gail Putkas	20.00
Four Seasons Garden Club, TX	
in lieu of speakers fee to Bill Foster	25.00
Susan E. Bastianelli, CA	
in memory of her mother, Julia Frink, a real violet lover	25.00
Metropolitan Regional Council	

of Judges, NY	20.00
AVS of Greater Kansas City, MO	20.00
Sunset AVS, AZ	15.00
AVS of Pensacola, FL	60.00
Lone Star AV Council, TX	100.00

For the month of January, 1988, affiliates qualifying (and requesting) the offer by Enterprises Press of Pauline Bartholomew's book, "Growing To Show," are: High Hopes Violet Club, GA; Richmond AVS, VA and San Diego Daytime AVS, CA.

Some Thoughts & Observations on Foliar Feeding

*Lynda C. Welchel, Magic Knight African Violet Society
9505 Wildwood Ridge, San Antonio, TX 78250*

What is the difference between adding fertilizer to the soil through continuous feeding and foliar feeding? When fertilizer is added to the soil through wick watering, only a very small fraction is actually absorbed by the plant. On the other hand, it has been demonstrated, using isotopes (radioactive atoms) that the percentage of fertilizer that reaches the inside of the plant is relatively high when we foliar feed. It has been shown that absorption takes place more readily through the lower surface of our violet leaves than through the top portion of the leaves.

Getting the right type of food to your plant, at the specific time when you want it to be present, is the advantage! Fertilizer added to the soil/water, 3-5 weeks before you take a plant to show, will have little or no effect, but when applied to the leaves it has an instant effect.

To prepare for a show, I have started foliar feeding standard African violets with a fertilizer having a high phosphorus content such as a (12-55-6) formulation, 6-8 weeks before a scheduled show, at 12-14 day intervals, using 1/8 tsp. of fertilizer per gallon of water — vs. the usual 1/4 tsp. of fertilizer per gallon of water — and have achieved spectacular results. Once the plant starts coming into bloom, be very careful not to get fertilizer on the bloom stalks or blooms. When the plant has blossomed to about 50% of its potential, I discontinue foliar feeding.

When preparing to foliar feed, always heat distilled water, to prevent spotting of the leaves from chemicals, etc., that may be in your water. Before spraying the leaves, test the water on your wrist to be sure it is warm enough; otherwise, you will be in danger of spotting the leaves. Cold water will cause yellow spotting of leaves. Using a plastic spray bottle (8 oz.), put it in the microwave for approximately 60 seconds. This generally will heat the prepared solution adequately. Spray each plant very lightly, holding the bottle approximately 12-14

inches from the plant. First spray the underside of the leaves very lightly and then the top of the plant, creating almost a misty cloud. If any droplets of water form on the plants, keep a tissue available to quickly absorb the excess moisture.

The day when foliar feeding is done, try to do it early in the morning, at least one hour after your plant lights have been turned on. At this time, the room is warm and your plants will then have adequate drying time.

After foliar feeding, keep a sharp eye out for powdery mildew. The symptoms are leaves with a powdery, grayish white mildew that will spread rapidly over your plants unless it is treated quickly. Your plants will also become sickly and fail to flower well. If this happens, treat your plants with Funginex, Benlate or other suitable fungicide, according to directions. You could also try increasing air circulation in the room to help alleviate this problem. A small fan in the room, not pointed directly at the plants, is helpful.

Should you decide to employ this technique, try it on a few plants, not your entire collection.

A golden rule is to always try anything new, on only a few plants. Given sufficient time, you will know what works in your environment.

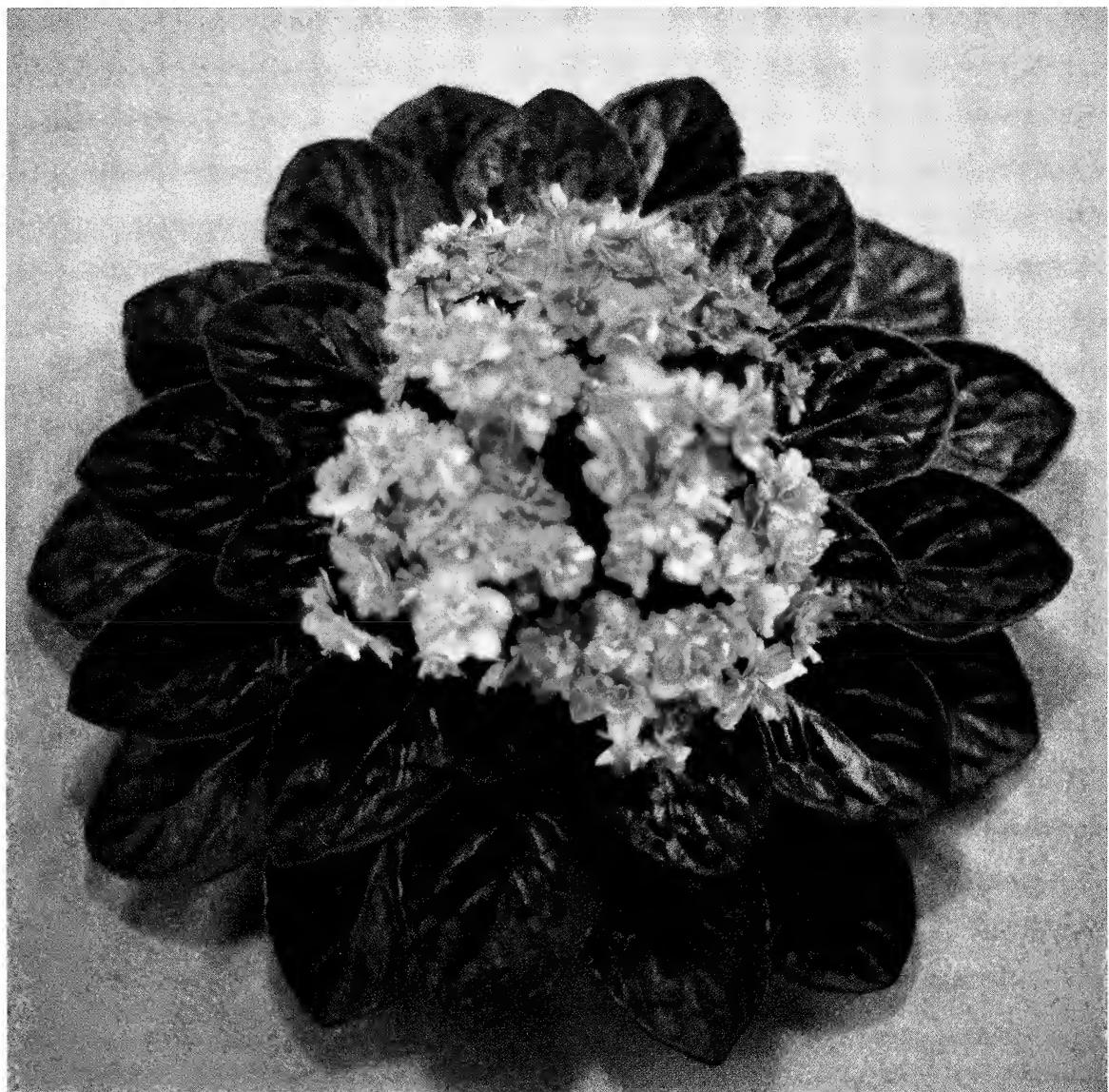
In this way you will not jeopardize your entire collection.

I have also foliar fed young African violets with a high nitrogen fertilizer (17-6-6), when the leaves did not have the dark desired green color. Within 2-3 weeks the leaves have turned dark green. (Caution - do not use this method on variegated plants. A high nitrogen fertilizer will greatly lessen the amount of variegation on a plant.)

Remember, foliar feedings do not take the place of regular feeding, but can be used to supplement constant feeding that most of us do through wick watering. Happy violeting!

Juicy -

grown and exhibited by Wayne Geeslin, Houston, Texas



Hybridized by Jeannette Domiano, Jeannette's Jesneriads, Gretna, Louisiana

(Photo by Dan Braswell)

SHOWS AND JUDGES

*Emilie Savage
39 Mead Drive
Chillicothe, OH 45601*



Since this column must be written prior to our AVSA convention/show in Dallas, all reports on the shows and judges' breakfast will come in a later issue. Please be assured that even though the words of appreciation may come later, we always are pleased with the number of judges and clerks who are willing to donate their time for our convention show.

We regret to announce the resignation of Pauline Bartholomew as Senior Judges Examiner. She has performed an important assignment on the Shows and Judges Committee with expertise and kindness. We thank her for her contribution to the Shows and Judges Committee in this capacity and are pleased that she will continue as a member of the committee. We also regret, that Edward Bradford has resigned from the Shows and Judges Committee. We wish to express our appreciation to Edward for all that he has contributed to the committee as input compiler and the help given to us in many ways.

Frances C. King, 3327 28th St., San Diego, CA 92104, has been appointed as Senior Judges Examiner. She is an experienced judge and teacher and we are pleased to have her assume this task.

Norita Hallum, 310 Lori Lane, Brownwood, TX 76801, a member of the Shows and Judges Committee, will assume the duties of input compiler. She is also, an experienced judge and teacher, as well as a commercial grower. Any ideas or suggestions with regard to our judging system should be sent to her at the above address.

Standard Show Award Point Score Sheet

We have observed that some judges are rounding off numbers in computing the scores under various categories of the SSA form. Please use the full number, with decimal points, such as 4.45, instead of 4. The addition of these fractions could possibly

mean the difference between receiving an SSA award and being short a point or two.

Unusual Containers

Many questions have been raised with reference to containers that would be acceptable in this section of AVSA shows. This makes us realize that perhaps we should have gone into more detail when the Judges' Handbook was written concerning the types of containers that would be acceptable. The words "china objects" could have been defined as to various forms.

Any piece or part that is an integral part of another container and which could be used with that container as a unit would be acceptable. This means that an African violet may be entered in a cup and saucer.

The same rule applies to a box or ceramic container with a lid, such as a cookie jar, powder bowl, etc. The lid may be placed by the container.

Since the purpose of this section is to show how an African violet in an unusual, decorative, or novel container can be displayed in a home setting, even though this is a class in an African violet show, the same principle would apply. If you were displaying a violet in a cup in your home, you would not omit the saucer, as it adds to the beauty of the composition, nor would you eliminate the lid on a lovely container, for the same reason.

There are also decorative ceramic units, such as a horse and wagon, bunny and cart, etc. Here again is an illustration where one is an integral part of the other and should be used together. If you were displaying this type of container in your home, you would not plant a violet in the wagon or cart and omit the other part of the unit when you displayed it on a table or chest.

I see no problem in entering the two-piece self-watering Sea Shell Ceramic Planter pictured in the

July-August, 1987 AVSA magazine, as it is decorative, which fulfills the requirement of this class; however, if several exhibitors use the same planter, it would lack significance.

An African violet planted in a two-piece Oyama "Texas Style" planter or any other self-watering type of planter or pot should not be entered in this class, as it does not meet the qualifications of "unusual, decorative, or novel."

Rootrot In African Violets

*Lukas M. Otto, Chairman
West Rand African Violet Society
P. O. Box 309
Muldersdrift 1747
Republic of South Africa*

Rootrot in African violets is caused by Phytophthora nicotianae and Pythium spinosum. Both are fungal diseases. These particular diseases attack the plant normally through the root system and will then spread to the petioles. As soon as the fungus reaches the petioles the plant will start wilting and eventually die. The fungi flourish if you keep the soil too moist and when the salt concentration is kept too high.

The symptoms of the fungal diseases are difficult to differentiate, although each fungus attacks the plant in a different way. When the plant is attacked by Phytophthora nicotianae there is a sudden wilting and dying of the plant. With Pythium spinosum the time lapse takes longer. Usually the older leaves will start wilting and eventually the growth will be retarded or stopped completely. Later the younger leaves will be attacked as well as the centre of the crown. Both the fungal diseases could attack the plant simultaneously or individually. This makes disease identification difficult.

The causes of contamination are:

Sick plants that are not removed immediately.
Capillary mats where sick plants used to stand.
Use of dirty pots which have not been disinfected.

There are some chemicals available to treat Oomyceten, the group name of this fungus family. They are: Fongarid, Previcur-N, AAterra, Aliette and Bayer 4072 (Dexon). A word of caution concerning Fongarid is that a slight yellowing of the

plant will take place temporarily. After about two-three weeks it will return to its own colour. Studies show that a high dosage of Fongarid could act as a growth retardment similar to Bayer (5072).

Although AAterra could be mixed with the soil before you start planting, it is not recommended because of the following reasons:

If you do not use all the soil at once the AAterra will lose its effectiveness, and therefore, you should apply AAterra more often, which is expensive.

If you transplant the violet there could be some soil around the rootball and the fungus could be present in the soil and could attack the plant again.

Contamination could be prevented if you remember the following facts:

Healthy Starter Plants

By making sure you got healthy motherplants you could be almost certain that your baby plants would be healthy also.

Cultivation

If you see to it that your plants are not too wet, half your problems are solved.

Cultivar

Studies have shown that blue flowers are less likely to be attacked by Phytophthora nicotianae and Pythium spinosum than other flower colours. White and pink flowers are extremely sensitive to the fungus.

Hygiene

If one of your plants is attacked and shows the symptoms of the disease, you must remove it away from the other plants and treat it on its own. You must also disinfect the area where the sick plant used to stand.

Chemical Treatment

The type of poison depends on the stage of growth size of the plant. When you strike a leaf you could use Fongarid, Aliette or Previcur-N. Fongarid could be used with no harm to the plant at this stage. If you still get some plants with the disease you should use another type of chemical because it probably has built up a resistance against the chemical.

With a fully grown plant you could use the following treatment:

Mix 250 gram AAterra for every m³ of sterilized soil. All the above chemicals should be mixed with water and poured onto the pot. Make sure that you wet all of the soil.



Mayfair

Wood Rose



More From
Irene
Fredette

(Photos by Irene Fredette)

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



Reservations are \$1.00 and are valid for two (2) years from the date they are received by the registrar. Registrations are \$5.00 if there is no reservation, or \$4.00 if there is a valid reservation still in effect.

Registrations

Florise Hogan, Rockford, IL

***Flo's Pink Rain** - Semimini - Double bright pink with white edges and streaks. White is variable. Deep green quilted, pointed, glossy, girl foliage. #6791 12/21/87

***Flo's Purple Heart** - Semimini - Double white with purple eye and markings. Medium green, quilted, glossy, pebbly foliage. #6792 12/21/87

***Flo's Rainbow** - Semimini - Double bright pink with blue and white streaks that radiate from center, white edge. Will only bloom true from a sucker. Deep green, quilted, serrated, slight girl foliage. #6793 12/21/87

***Flo's White Swan** - Semimini - Semidouble white star, sometimes with splash of pink. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. #6794 12/21/87

Kimberlee Campbell, Pittsburgh, PA

***Alais** - Mini - Double medium pink, occasionally two tone. Medium green plain foliage, with occasional red back. #6724 9/23/87

Ralph Robinson, Tonawanda, NY

***Rob's Almost Sinful** - Semimini - Semidouble fringed medium pink with wide ruby red edge, some spatters on face. Dark green with red reverse variegated foliage, which may be wavy when young. #6795 1/4/88

***Rob's Clown Around** - Mini - Double fringed fantasy, medium blue with purple flecks. May have green edging. Dark with light red reverse,

wavy, TL variegated, pointed foliage. #6796 1/4/88

***Rob's Crazy Daze** - Semimini - Double fringed deep pink with green edges. Medium to dark green with red reverse, wavy, T L variegated foliage. #6797 1/4/88

***Rob's Diamond Chips** - Semimini - Semidouble white with medium blue shadings. Medium green, plain, pointed. May be variegated when young or grown cool. #6798 1/4/88

***Rob's Foolishness** - Semimini - Double star, medium pink. Quilted, hairy, gold crown variegated foliage. #6799 1/4/88

***Rob's Never Naughty** - Semimini - Double fringed dark blue, sometimes with green edge. Medium green, ruffled, gold crown variegation. #6800 1/4/88

***Rob's Romancer** - Mini - Single to semidouble medium fuchsia sometimes with geneva edge. Medium green, pointed, TL variegated foliage. #6801 1/4/88

***Rob's Shadow Magic** - Semimini - Semidouble very dark blue. Medium green, pointed, glossy, serrated, pointed gold crown variegation if grown cool. #6802 1/4/88

***Rob's Temptress** - Semimini - Very full double ruffled dark fuchsia red. Medium green & white gold crown variegation, heavily serrated, scalloped foliage. #6803 1/4/88

Hugh Eyerdom/Granger Gardens, Medina, OH

***Fantasy Flair** - Standard - Double medium pink with blue fantasy specks, geneva edge. Medium green, quilted, pointed, hairy foliage. #6804 1/15/88

***Fantasy Frill** - Standard - Double fringed bright pink center with whitish edge fantasy specks. Medium green, quilted, ruffled, hairy, foliage.

#6805 1/15/88

*Fantasy Glo - Standard - Double fringed bright pink with blue fantasy specks and white edge. Medium green, plain, ruffled, hairy foliage. #6806 1/15/88

*Fantasy Jewel - Standard - Double bright pink with dark blue fantasy. Dark green, quilted, pointed, hairy with red reverse. #6807 1/15/88

*Kilauea - Standard - Single chimera. Pink fantasy with middle white stripe. Light green, quilted, pointed, glossy foliage. #6808 1/15/88

*Moonbeams - Standard - Single chimera. Pink with large blue fantasy marks, white middle stripe. Light green, quilted, pointed, glossy foliage. #6809 1/15/88

*Picturesque - Standard - Double red-orchid with wide white border. Medium green, quilted, pointed, red reverse foliage. #6810 1/15/88

*Redlands Pride - Standard - Double red-orchid with narrow white border. Medium green, quilted, pointed, with red reverse. #6811 1/15/88

*Royal Gem - Standard - Double purple two tone with variable darker shadings. Dark olive, quilted, glossy, with dark red reverse. #6812 1/15/88

*Yasuyo - Standard - Single chimera. Medium pink with blue center stripe and blue fantasy flecks. Dark green, quilted, pointed, hairy, with dark red reverse. #6813 1/15/88

*Yasuyo Sport - Standard - Double chimera. Dark pink with blue center stripe with blue fantasy specks. Dark green, quilted, pointed, hairy, with dark red reverse. #6814 1/15/88

Hortense Pittman, San Antonio, TX

*Can De - Semiminiature - Double fringed white with fuchsia markings. Ruffled, T L variegated foliage. #6815 1/25/88

*Dallas Deb - Standard - Semidouble lavender with purple edge and geneva edge. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. #6816 1/25/88

*Dixie Delight - Standard - Semidouble medium blue star with geneva edge. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. #6817 1/25/88

*Lavender Magic - Semimini - Double lavender with geneva edge. Medium green, plain foliage. #6818 1/25/88

*Mixed Magic - Standard - Double pink with geneva edge. Dark green, plain, quilted, with red reverse foliage. #6819 1/25/88

*Moon Rays - Standard - Semidouble rose pink.

Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. #6820 1/25/88

*My Doll - Mini - Semidouble rose pink. T L variegated, plain foliage. #6821 1/25/88

*Redlands Precious - Semimini - Semidouble fuchsia. Plain, T L variegated foliage. #6822 1/25/88

*Ruffled Joy - Semimini - Double fringed white with fuchsia eye. Ruffled, TL variegated foliage. #6823 1/25/88

*Solar Blue - Standard - Double dark blue with geneva edge. Quilted, T L variegated foliage. #6824 1/25/88

*Striped Honey - Standard - Single pink and lavender chimera with purple center stripe. Dark green, plain, pointed, red reverse foliage. #6825 1/25/88

*Summer Winds - Standard - Semidouble lavender purple. Medium green, plain, quilted, red reverse foliage. #6826 1/25/88

*Think Twice - Mini - Double pink. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. #6827 1/25/88

*Way Out - Standard - Semidouble pink and lavender chimera. Dark green, plain, quilted, red reverse foliage. #6828 1/25/88

*Wee Be - Semimini - Semidouble fuchsia with wide geneva edge. Dark green TL variegated, plain foliage with red reverse. #6829 1/25/88

*Winter Fun - Standard - Double white with blue. Light green, plain, quilted foliage. #6830 1/25/88

Richard Wasmund/Rainbow Violets, Niagara Falls, NY

*Bells of Ireland - Standard - Semidouble cupped bell, white star with wide green edge. Plain foliage. #6831 2/5/88

*Rainbow's Almost Heaven - Standard - Semidouble white to pale blush star with light pink & blue fantasy spots on petal edges. Plain, quilted foliage. #6832 2/5/88

*Rainbow's Arctic Gold - Large - Semidouble white. Plain, quilted, crown variegated foliage. #6833 2/5/88

*Rainbow's Center Stage - Standard - Semidouble white with pink and blue fantasy spots on outer petal edges. Plain, pointed foliage. #6834 2/5/88

*Rainbow's Enchanted Gold - Large - Semidouble light pink with raspberry fantasy spots and streaks. May have white edge on upper

petals. Quilted, pointed, crown variegated foliage. #6835 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Fuji Gold** - Large - Semidouble white. Plain, quilted, crown variegated foliage. #6836 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Galactic Starburst** - Standard - Semidouble white with blue mottling. Plain, TL variegated foliage. #6837 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Imperial Gold** - Large - Double purple star. Plain, quilted, crown variegated foliage. #6838 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Lunar Jewels** - Standard - Semidouble coral pink star with blue fantasy spots and streaks. Plain TL variegated foliage. #6839 2/5/88

***Rainbow's New Horizons** - Large - Semidouble light to medium blue star with white and pink fantasy spots. Plain, quilted, TL variegated foliage. #6840 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Polar Frost** - Large - Semidouble white fringed star with green frilled edges. Plain, TL variegated foliage. #6841 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Raspberry Frenzy** - Standard - Semidouble ruffled pink with dark raspberry spattered edges. Plain, quilted, pointed, TL variegated foliage. #6842 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Ruby Lou** - Large - Semidouble dark red. Plain, TL variegated foliage. #6843 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Snowy Gold** - Large - Semidouble white. Plain, crown variegated foliage. #6844 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Stage Left** - Standard - Semidouble pink with blue fantasy spots on outer petal edges. Plain, pointed foliage. #6845 2/5/88

***Rainbow's Supercharm** - Large - Semidouble pink. Plain, quilted foliage. #6846 2/5/88

J C Munk, Houston, TX

***Ellen Griffin's Pride** - Large - Semidouble frilled lavender with darker edges. Green, pink and white variegated foliage with red reverse. #6747 2/14/88

Denis Croteau, Longueuil, Quebec, Canada

***Desir** - Large - Semidouble light blue, sometimes with white or green edges. Dark green, quilted foliage with light red reverse. #6848 2/10/88

***L'Ambassadeur** - Large - Semidouble medium blue with white edge. Dark green, quilted foliage with medium red reverse. #6849 2/10/88

***Ovation** - Large - Semidouble chimera, medium pink with hot pink center stripe. Medium green, quilted, heavily ruffled foliage. #6850 2/10/88

***Robert Croteau** - Large - Double lilac with pale pink large fantasy spots. Very dark, quilted foliage, with medium red reverse. #6851 2/10/88

Beverly Britt, Etobicoke, Toronto, Canada

***Albany Sunset** - Large - Semidouble bright pink. Dark green, plain, quilted foliage. #6852 2/26/88

***Magenta Magic** - Large - Semidouble magenta red. Dark green, plain, quilted foliage with red reverse. #6853 2/26/88

***Monday's Child** - Large - Semidouble light blue. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. #6854 2/26/88

***Orchid Frills** - Large - Semidouble ruffled lavender. Light green, plain foliage. #6855 2/26/88

***Pink Enchantment** - Large - Double ruffled pink. Medium green, plain, quilted, wavy foliage. #6856 2/26/88

***Silver Seas** - Large - Semidouble lavender and white multicolor. Light green, plain, quilted, wavy foliage. #6857 2/26/88

***Welsh Sunset** - Large - Double red. Dark green, plain, quilted foliage with red reverse. #6858 2/26/88

Name Reservations

Elizabeth Colledge, River Falls, WI

* Boreas Rex * California Girl * Champagne Breakfast * Coat of Arms * Dawnstar * Diamond Lil * May Bride * River Falls Amethyst * River Falls Carrousel * River Falls Lace * River Falls Ripple * Windfall * Winterlight * Winterstar *

Mary Gall/Mary's Violet Joy, Leawood, KS 66206

* Ah Kansas * Bethy Boo * Grassland Heritage * Little Jayhawker * Mount Oread * Prairie Primrose *

Dave Martin, Mentor, Ohio

* Watercolor Splash *

Lenora Munk, Houston, TX

* Almost Red * Austen's Love * Bright Cherry * Bright Pink * Country Sunset * Crimson Velvet * Elsie Marie * Faded Love * First Houston * Happy Chris * Hidden Beauty * Lavender Love * Mixed

Emotion * Our Carolyn * Pink Rosette * Rosie Pink
* Spring Branch * Texas Sunshine * Velvet Cranberry *

Raymond Scott, College Station, TX

* Fantasy Red * Frosted Whisper * Misty Moment *
Witch's Brew *

Gerri Goins, Houston, TX

* Kathe Denise *

Don & Jean Ness, White Bear Lake, MN

* Ness's Ballyhoo Blue * Ness's Burgundy Beau *
Ness's Crimson Kiss * Ness's Crystal Moon *
Ness's Lilac Time * Ness's Snowy Daze * Ness's
Wheezy Blue *

Sidney Sorano/Lyon Greenhouses, Dolgeville, NY

* Ice Dancing *

Joen Gehr, Land O' Lakes, WI

* Africa * Cartoon Balloon * Celebrity * Christmas
Fantasy * Fantasize * Full Moon * Hyperactive *
Jungle Gardenia * Manitou * Merry Measure *
Opium * Pretty Awesome * Satellite * Split Decision
* Thunderbird *

Helen Gifford, Medusa, NY

* Bea Bee * Bea's Honey * Bemusing * Benny Bee
* Blush Chablis * Chablis * Mahalo * Paul's Pick *

Linda A Neumann, No Royalton, OH

* Chiffon Masquerade * Chiffon Pageant * Chiffon
Prince *

Michel Tremblay, Keswick, Ontario, Canada

* Aventure * Comete Bleu *

Denis Croteau, Quebec, Canada

* Jean-Pierre Croteau *

Registration Corrections

Betty Bryant, Tomball, TX

* Ann - #6649 - Description should read heavily
variegated, sometimes with touches of pink.

* Bill Foster - #6652 - Please change from single to
semidouble.

* Mint Julep - #6664 - Description should say semi-
double to double.

* Patti Cullinan - #5372 - Correct name is Patti
Cullar.

* Texas Sunbonnet - #6669 - Please change de-
scription to read wavy foliage instead of ruffled.

* Yvonne - #6671 - Description should say, slight
geneva edge.

George McDonald, Ripley, TN

* Lively Laura - #6723 - 9/16/87 - Please change
size of plant from standard to semiminiature.

Winston Smith, Liberty, TX

* Wrangler's Green Pastures - #6223 - Please
delete words fantasy and pansy. Description will
now read: Double ruffled white with green edge
and rose/mauve streaks.

Reservation Renewals

Betty Bryant, Tomball, TX

* Jack Frost * Jessica * Mary Boland * Newton *
Paula Kinman * Royal Blood * Shawn * Snow
Queen * Texas Nighthawk * Texas Starlite *

Are You Growing These Plants?

According to the International Code of Nomenclature, we may delete from our registration list, any cultivars ten years or older that are no longer being grown or used for hybridizing. Published below is a partial list of very early registrations that we would like to delete if they are no longer available. If you still grow any of these plants, please write and let me know so that they may be left as registered plants. Any plant not being grown, or used for hybridizing, will be considered obsolete and will be dropped from our next MVL. We have not included any plants with names that have historical value, such as the original ten, Tommie Lou, Joan Van Zele, etc. You have until June 30, 1988 to let us know about any name listed. If we receive no replies about specific registered plants by that date, we will assume they are no longer in circulation and remove them from our files. Send information to Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

All obsolete registration cards will be sent to the AVSA business office where they will be maintained in our archives.

O

Oak Leaf Girl, #417; October Night, #418; Ohio Bountiful,
#419; Oklahoma, #1050; Old Fashion, #754; Old Rose, #420;
Old Rose Bouquet, #421; Onondaga Chief, #743; Orchid Ballet,
#422; Orchid Beauty, AVS-48; Orchid Blush, #423; Orchid
Compacta, #424; Orchid Eyes, #425; Orchid Girl, AVS-48;
Orchid Lace, #426; Orchid Sunset, #427; Orchid Velvet, #428;
Orchid Wing, #429; Organdy, #999; Oriental, #430; Oriental
Girl, #431; Oros Candida, #432; Oros Crimson, #433; Oros
Dubonett, #434; Oros White Girl, #435; Overlay, #436

P

P T Beautiful Cloud, #964; P T Burma Ruby, #965; P T Miramar,

#966; P T Pacifica, #967; P T Pierrot, #968; P T Whimsy, #969; Pacific Prince, #437; Pacific Princess, #438; Pacific Redwood, #439; Pacific Shadows, #440; Pack's Lavender Star, #441; Painted Ballerina, #442; Painted Girl, #443; Pandora, #444; Panorama, #445; Pansy Girl, #446; Paradise, #447; Pearl Drop, #448; Peg O' My Heart, #449; Penne Sue, #762; Pennsylvania Lavender, #450; Perfection, #451; Periwinkle, #452; Periwinkle Girl, #453; Periwinkle Supreme, #454; Perky Pink, #945; Peter Pan, #455; Philadelphia Belle, #456; Picadilly, #739; Pied Piper, #457; Pilgrim Maid, #458; Pin Up Girl, #478; Pink Achievement, #459; Pink Anniversary, #845; Pink Baby's Breath, #815; Pink Beauty, AVS-48; Pink Betty Boop, #818; Pink Cheer, #460; Pink Cheer Supreme, #461; Pink Chiffon, #809; Pink Cushion, #866; Pink Cutie, #462; Pink Delight, #463; Pink Dilly, #755; Pink Eyed Jenny Girl, #464; Pink Fantasy, #465; Pink Figurine, #817; Pink Flare, #750; Pink Fringette, #466; Pink Frost, #467; Pink Garden, #957; Pink Geneva, #907; Pink Girl, AVS-48; Pink Glamour, #904; Pink Honeysuckle, #468; Pink Ice, #749; Pink Ideal, #469; Pink Joy, #864; Pink Melody, #756; Pink Miracle, #883; Pink Overlay, #470; Pink Popcorn, #759; Pink Prince, #471; Pink Quadrille, #816; Pink Rocket, #472; Pink Sheen, #473; Pink Swan, #474; Pink Tally Ho, #814; Pink Twist, #838; Pink Victoria, #865; Pink Vivacious, #475; Pink Waverly, #887; Pink Wonder, #476; Pinochio, #477; Plum Pretty, #785; Pompadour, #480; Pomponette, #479; Powder Puff Blue, #481; Prelude, #770; Pretty Penny, #482; Pride 'N Joy, #778; Princess Elizabeth, #483; Princess Leila, #484; Princess Pat, #485; Prof Chapman, #486; Puget Pearl, #487; Purity, #488; Purple Beauty, #489; Purple Bouquet, #490; Purple Dawn, #491; Purple Gem, #492; Purple Girl, #493; Purple Glory, #494; Purple Rajah, #888; Purple Shadows, #495; Purple Trapunto, #497; Purplesheen, #496.

Q
Quaker Maid, #498; Queen Betty, #499; Queen Biruta, #500; Queen Geneva, #501; Queen of Hearts, #502; Queen Victoria, #799; Queen's Cushion, #858; Queensroyal, #503; Quelques Fleurs, #789.

R
Radiant Chantilly, #504; Rainbow Doll, #771; Rainbow King, #505; Ranee, #506; Raspberry Pink, #991; Red Albino Girl, #507; Red Beauty, #508; Red Buttons, #775; Red Cap, #509; Red Dawn, #510; Red Duke, #511; Red Elfin Girl, #512; Red Frills, #513; Red Girl Champion, #514; Red Glow, #910; Red Head, AVS-48; Red King, #515; Red Lady, #516; Red Raider, #899; Red Rave, #517; Red Riding Hood, #518; Red Sue, #519; Red Surprise, #520; Red Velvet, #521; Red Waves, #522; Red Wing, #523; Redland, AVS-48; Regal Wine, #524; Regency, #525; Renee, #946; Renie Roper, #526; Rippling Blue, #527; Rippling Rythym, #852; Robinhood, #529; Rock 'N Roll, #902; Roehr's Lilac, #530; Roehr's Rose, #531; Romance, #532; Rosa May, #534; Rosalie, #533; Rose 'Onna Maple, #539; Rose 'Onna Pink Dresden, #535; Rose 'Onna Swirl, #695; Rose Chimes, #536; Rose Double, #537; Rose Ellevia, #538; Rose Glow, #881; Rose of Sharon, #540; Rose Perfection, #541; Rose Pink Queen, #542; Rose Red, #543; Rose's Eddie Boy, #544; Rose's Lollipop, #545; Rose's Pride Dupont, #546; Rose's Sally Ann, #547; Rosette Red, #548; Rosy Blue, #549; Rosy Red, #550; Royal Girl, #551; Royal Glory, #779; Royal Ripples, #552; Royal Robe, #553; Royal Scot, #554; Royal Velvet, #555; Ruby Bouquet, #556; Ruffled BI, #840; Ruffled Geneva, #877; Ruffled Prince, #557; Ruffled Triumph, #559; Ruffled White, #560; Ruffles, AVS-48.

The Fine Art of Violetry

Tips and Techniques for Growing, Showing and Sharing, Part II of II

Lynda J. Grybko

75 Arnold Road

Delham, MA 01002

Not Growing Under Lights?

Do not despair. All of the information In Part I, March/April 1988 AVM, except, of course, increasing the duration of artificial light, still will work when you are growing your violets in natural light. Violets are very adaptable, as most of us know, and with a bit of attention, will do very well, if not quite so spectacularly, in your windows. You will need to keep a few additional items in mind: to keep the symmetry in your violets, you will, of course, need to turn them on a regular basis or they will tend to lean toward the light. They will tend to develop smaller leaves and longer petioles (leaf stems) than those grown under lights, but can still achieve substantial size and lovely bloom if they get adequate natural light.

Violets tend to oftentimes "tell" us when they are

receiving insufficient light by "reaching" upward with their leaves rather than growing in a flat rosette. Contrary to popular opinion, this author has found her violets very happy in sunlight as well as strong filtered light. Some, in fact, will not stay flat without some sunlight! Just be careful that you do not "cook" your violets in strong spring (east) or summer (south & west) sun. Watch for "sunburn" — brown, mushy leaves, and move your plant a bit farther from the window if you see this. Also, avoid frostbite in the winter by making sure your plants do not contact the windowpane directly and are not subjected to cold winter drafts around very leaky windows.

For those who love year 'round bloom and/or those who grow on their windowsills, do not overlook the little MINIS and the TRAILERS. These delightful little plants can grow into perfect mini-

atures of their larger cousins in less space and time. (Note: To show a plant, you must have it in your possession for 3 months prior to show date. Many minis can be grown from a fresh start to a show plant in that period of time in the spring, when growth is fastest.) There is much controversy regarding the desirability of disbudding minis and semiminis. Trailers are almost impossible to keep disbudded!

Because minis can get a bit "wild," for their miniature size, quite quickly, they often will require a bit more attention in December and January (or even February) than their standard cousins. Many tend to sucker easily. "Leggy" lower leaves and suckers will need to be removed at this time, often necessitating repotting the little plant (back into its own 2-1/2" pot) a bit deeper into its pot to bury the neck that develops from leaf & sucker removal. The best way to give the repotted plant and subsequent show bloom a good "boost" is to completely disbud at this time, even if you have allowed it to bloom freely up to this point. Keep it disbudded (if you can reach under its tiny leaves) for just a few weeks, then stop when you know it will have adequate time to develop bloom for the show. Keep in mind that many minis develop full-sized blossoms! It is not uncommon for a mini to bloom so profusely as to completely hide the foliage. This is *lovely* at show time, but if allowed to do this too often during the preceding year, you may find that the foliage turns pale yellow for lack of adequate light. If this becomes a problem, simply remove enough bloom to allow the center leaves to remain healthy and enjoy your little plant year 'round. Don't forget, on ALL your violets, to remove blossoms as soon as they are "spent." They do not contribute to the beauty of the plant and they *do* tend to develop mildew.

Trailers are a bit of a different story. They are wonderfully decorative hanging from a window or on a table top in a basket, and the mini-trailers are just delightful in a teacup as a centerpiece. (Remember that once your violets have started a "bloom cycle," you can move them *anywhere* to enjoy them, and they will continue to bloom, with or without adequate light. *Without* adequate light, however, another bloom cycle will not start "back-to-back" with the current one, and your foliage will suffer slightly. But if you are not facing a show in a few weeks, you can use your violets as decorations to love and enjoy for weeks and weeks of blooms, putting them back into adequate light when the

bloom cycle is spent and they need a "pick-er-upper" to stimulate more growth. Remember to adjust your "feeding" accordingly ... a growing plant needs more than one "on hold.") Trailers, because they need a minimum of three growing ends and some semblance of symmetry overall to be good show plants, require more time to grow for show than a mini. To achieve a large, full standard trailer does require as much time as growing a standard SHOW plant; the mini-trailers can be grown, if necessary, in a bit less time and still make a good showing. Disbudding a trailer would take most of us more time than we could tolerate ... they LOVE to flower. Rather than doing this, many growers enjoy the bloom on their trailers (and minis) while disbudding their standards. Then, about three months prior to the show, you might want to completely groom and disbud your trailers, repotting if needed. Make sure you know how long your trailer needs to develop full bloom again and do not short change yourself time-wise when you do this. Again, take care to *know your plant!* Some trailers — and a few minis — "sulk" when disbudded, and take their sweet time coming back into bloom. "Old" (over a year old) trailers seem to show a bit better than their "old" standard cousins, so it might be a good idea to plan to show a trailer with which you've had more experience.

Natural light plants will take a bit more time, as a rule, to come into bloom for show than those stimulated by artificial light, so again, know your plant and its growing conditions. It is unwise to change growing conditions just before a show. Some plants growing beautifully in natural light will "tighten up" when put under artificial light, developing tight, hard "centers" until they readjust to the additional light.

Many of the techniques discussed in this brief outline of growing an IDEAL violet ... for fun or SHOW ... are best and most effectively demonstrated rather than explained.

This overview should, hopefully, provide you with an outline of the logical growing sequence and steps necessary to achieve a lovely plant. You should never hesitate to ask questions pertinent to your own growing conditions. If one grower has not experienced your particular problem or situation, perhaps another has and can provide just the right tip to help you on your journey of growing lovely African violets.

Ask Your Hybridizer!

*Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road, #A2
Elyria, OH 44035*



Some people are in tune with the times. Others are clearly behind the times. Only a select few are ever ahead of their time. These individuals change history. Gregor Mendel was such a person. I never cease to be amazed at the scientific insight of this Augustinian monk who discovered and published the laws of heredity in the 1860s. Although his work presented a clear explanation of how plant traits were inherited and was documented with ample evidence, scientists of that day failed to comprehend this outstanding discovery. His work gathered dust on the shelves of the Brunn Natural History Society in Austria for 34 years. Finally in 1900, sixteen years too late for Mendel to receive the acclaim due his discovery, the scientific community discovered Mendel's work and verified his results.

Mendel was far ahead of his time, but if he were alive today, it is doubtful he would believe all the wonders being promised by modern biotechnology. All kinds of new plants seem possible through gene transfer. USDA scientists have successfully transferred the gene for luminescent light from the insect firefly into tobacco plants. They have created glow-in-the-dark tobacco. Frankly, it is a mind-boggling feat, but the practical value of it escapes me. I wish they had given us a yellow African violet instead! Perhaps, AVSA should suggest such a project to USDA. Who knows what the response might be? What is your opinion?

Q. If I have a violet which produces occasional bicolor blossoms which are different from how they are supposed to look (whether they are pinwheel or not), can I get a new variety with the unusual bloom by planting the flower stalk?

A. You cannot get a new variety by planting the flower stalk of an unstable variety that produces

variable bloom. If it produces a chimera bloom, then you could get a new variety by planting the flower stalk.

Q. I want to create a purple with pink fantasy markings. I think I will need to cross a purple with pink fantasy with a purple that has a recessive pink gene. How do you know, without knowing its parents, whether a purple has a recessive pink gene or not?

A. There is no reliable or practical way to know the genotype of a variety except by knowing the parents. That is why it is so important to keep records of your crosses and the resulting recessives that they reveal to you. There is one other thing that can reveal recessive traits. If you have a variety that sports to another color or one of the blossoms has a small streak of another color in it, then you know it has a recessive gene for that color. Sometimes the blossoms on a pansy shaped variety will bloom star shaped; then you can be sure that it has a recessive star gene. Aside from these rare occurrences you just have to observe and keep records of your results.

Q. You have stated in your column that fantasy blooms are dominant and easy to get. It did not work for me. I crossed the fantasy 'Chiffon Print' with another pink and did not get any fantasies. Why?

A. Wow! What a coincidence. I made 5 or 6 crosses with 'Chiffon Print' myself this year, and like you, I did not get a single fantasy bloom. I have no idea why this is so with this particular variety. Choose another fantasy to cross with and I feel sure you will have success. I have never had it to fail with any other variety before.

Q. I am planning to begin my own program of cross-breeding violets. I want to produce stable varieties. My feeling is that I should collect the

original species and begin a structured program with them. What is your opinion? Should I ignore the modern varieties?

A. I would be much more inclined to tell you to ignore the species. The original violets are really "rogues" in appearance and performance compared to modern violets. Why abandon nearly 100 years of progress that has been made in hybridizing? The only time that it makes sense to me to backcross with the species violets is if one of them has some special desirable trait. For instance, if you were trying to develop a violet with greater cold tolerance, you would likely cross it with Schumensis, the high altitude variety. If you wanted the trailing habit, you might want to cross with Groetzeana, etc.

Q. Do you use a computer to help you with your hybridizing?

A. I recently bought a computer to help me keep track of my crosses. Since I made over 1,000 crosses this year, I knew that I needed to do something. As for the computer "helping me" with my hybridizing, record keeping is the extent of its use at the moment. I know that an experienced programmer could develop some software that could really help a hybridizer. I wish I had a programmer in my circle of friends, but I do not at the moment. The word processing program with the computer is wonderful to use in writing my columns!

Q. Some of the seedlings from a recent cross had really ugly foliage. Some of the light green leaves had dark blotches in them. What causes this?

A. The condition you describe is sometimes referred to as "birthmarking." It sometimes happens when a light green foliage variety is crossed with a dark foliage variety.

Master Variety List

Mary A. Boland, Chairman

6415 Wilcox Court, Alexandria, VA 22310

Hybridizers, we need your descriptions for the MVL Supplement. If you have a new cultivar, or one that has not been previously listed in the MVL or a Supplement, or one that has had a change in the description since introduction and listing in the MVL or Supplements, we need to hear from you.

Please send the name of cultivar, if registered - the number of registration, and the description as you have released it, to the Master Variety List Committee, by June 1, 1988.

Give African Violet Miniatures a Try!

Margaret Harcourt
8101 Sumter Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21237

This is a copy of the program that I gave at one of our club's meetings a few years back (with a little updating). It seemed we were losing interest in miniature African violets, but I like them and wanted to get the new club members interested in at least giving them a try. Since then, it seems that my program worked. Interest was created and entries in the Miniature and Semiminiature classes have been overwhelming.

This program is to be a little helpful guide to grow and show miniature and semiminiature violets. My aim is to encourage you to try if you do not already grow some. Their growing and care is not too far different from the standards. I will try to impart to you MY experiences, but you must remember, success is tied to YOUR growing conditions, just the same as your success or failure is tied to your overall growing conditions for your standards.

I have set aside one shelf in my growing area exclusively for my miniatures. I use the top shelf; minis seem to like the warmer spot. Lights are positioned so that they are approximately nine inches from the top of the plants. Leaf cuttings are made in the same way as for standards, with the exception that I can put the smaller leaves down in a plastic shoe box or a shallow clear plastic shirt box, instead of the deeper sweater box — all with clear lids. Place these under the light and on the top shelf. I prefer to make my leaf cuttings in late summer (August or September), for the following year's show plants. Miniatures grow and mature faster than the standards. They also will not require the constant repotting to the next larger pot size.

When the babies are up and ready to pot (about January), I put them into thumb-size pots which are just slightly under two inches. If these are not available, place directly into two-inch pots. I have a supply of two-inch square pots, but prefer two-inch round ones, which, with a little searching, are available. A local greenhouse or florist who buys starters

or small plants for dish gardens, etc., can be a source of small, usable pots. I have found that they are willing to sell, at a nominal fee, surplus dirty pots which they are glad to dispose of. Place the potted babies in a tray with a clear cover or a clear shoe box with a clear lid. Water and keep the lid closed to retain moisture and humidity, but do not overwater. Place directly under the lights on your mini shelf, at the same distance from the light that they will be expected to grow from. When they start showing active growth, remove from the box or tray and set up on your wicking system.

When the young plants start blooming and look as though they have outgrown the thumb pot, it is time to repot into either a two-inch pot for minis or a 2-1/2 inch pot for semiminis. I also have a supply of 2-1/4 inch pots available to use for either size plant, which is acceptable. Do, however, consider the mature size of the plant (if known), because a small-growing semiminiature *could* be kept in a two-inch pot, or one that grows larger than eight inches *should* be kept in a two-inch pot to help keep its size within the acceptable limit. Remember, all the while your babies are growing they will require constant attention to grooming. Remove all baby leaves as soon as you notice active growth and new leaves; this will encourage the plantlet to grow but keep your eyes open for suckers. A sucker left unremoved could equal the size of the miniature itself and ruin the symmetry in a very short time. Some miniatures sucker very profusely prior to blooming.

Like a lot of growers, I use wicks on all of my plants. Wicking is the most even watering method I have found. Since the minis are in smaller pots, they would have a tendency to dry out faster if top watered, hence requiring watering more often. When repotting, prune some of the roots and reduce the root ball, removing some of the old soil as necessary. You can also remove a row or two of leaves to reduce the size of the plant, in proportion to the roots. I also disbud and deflower, if blooming. (NOTE: Disbudding is only done when repotting.) Always use fresh soil because the nutrients are used up faster in the small pot. I also prefer to mix a small amount of systemic into the potting medium in the bottom of a clean pot of the appropriate size.

Repotting and root pruning is done three or four times a year, depending on the growth habit of the plant. Natural light is good, but the fluorescent lights are best for a more compact plant; also it is more

reliable. When I had only a few miniatures, I put them on 1 # coffee cans among the standards, directly under the lights, and they did well. Remember, the plants are smaller and therefore should be a little closer to the lights. My lights are on timers and are lit for the same length of time each day.

The repotting and disbudding for show should be completed by the middle of March, for our show, which is in May, prior to Mother's Day. I figure it to be at least eight weeks, but like everything else, this is MY experience — you must experiment for yourself. Also, when repotting, remember to reduce the size of your plant to allow for growth by show time. Be sure to keep a check on the size of your plants. For show, a miniature should not exceed six inches in diameter and should be in a two-inch pot; a 2-1/4 inch pot is acceptable if a 2-inch pot is not available. Flowers may extend beyond the leaves. Semiminatures' overall size should not exceed eight inches in diameter. I do not recommend putting semiminatures in a pot larger than 2-1/2 inches. A minimum of six blooms is acceptable — any less is not recommended for show.

Do not depend on what the grower/greenhouse has told you what the plant is. Always check your variety out by name, in the Master Variety List. A master list for semis and minis is also available. The AV Handbook for Judges and exhibitors is a very good source of other information.

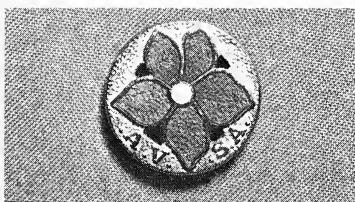
Make yourself a measure for the miniatures. Here is another good use for the plastic meat tray. Find an item around the house with a six inch diameter — an embroidery hoop, a flower pot, a mixing bowl — look and measure to find something that is the appropriate size. Place the item on the meat tray and trace. Cut out the center a little smaller, check the size to be sure it is a hair under six inches, and you have a mini measure. Do the same for the eight inch semiminatures. Be sure to check the size of your plants before taking them to your show. Twice I entered semiminatures at the proper size, only to have them grow a fraction of an inch overnight, and not be considered by the judges.

I hope you will be encouraged to try some miniature and semiminatures. The newer varieties are so nice, but remember, if you don't try, you'll never know whether you will like them.

Don't be scared off because of the extra care, who knows, you may get hooked. I know some one who did.

AVSA EMBLEMS

(Give a Friend a Gift)



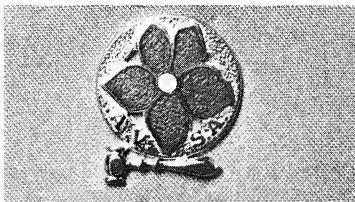
A - 201
Member Pin
GP or Silver - \$12.75



B - 203
Member Charm
GP or Silver - \$12.75



C - 202
President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50



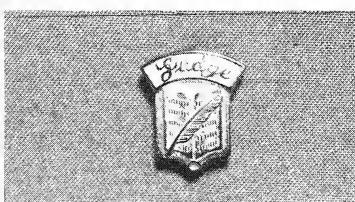
D - 221
Past President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50
(with Tie Tack) - \$18.50



E - 204
Past President's Charm
GP or Silver \$18.50



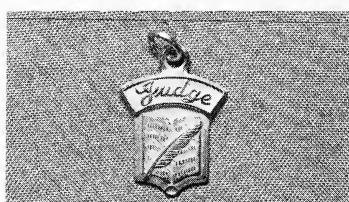
F - 211
Gavel & Chain
GP or Silver - \$6.00



G - 234
Judge's Pin
GP or Silver - \$8.00
(with Tie Tack) - \$8.00



H - 210
Judge's Guard Pin
GP or Silver \$9.50
(chain attaches to other pins)



I - 208
Judge's Charm
GP or Silver - \$8.00

New Arrivals: Life Member Pins

Goldfilled - \$24 • Silver - \$20.00

The Language of the Gavel

By Ann Richardson

Did you who own AVSA pins with a gavel know that there is a language of the gavel? The angle of the gavel tells a story, as follows:

President-elect:



While in Office:



(as in use — rapping for order)

Past-President:



worn down, as at rest.

Some of the clubs in the south present their President-elect with the pin and gavel immediately after election so that she may wear her pin showing that she is President-elect and also during her presidency.

Get The Royal Treatment

Part 1

Kent Stork

Mark your calendars now. Start making plans to head for the Heartland of America for the 43rd annual AVSA convention to be held May 22 - 28, 1989, at the Westin Crown Center Hotel. Come to Kansas City and Get the Royal Treatment.

Kansas City is a great city to experience. Although located primarily in Missouri, Kansas City and its metropolitan area of 1.5 million people is situated on both sides of the Kansas-Missouri state lines. A beautiful city spreading out over rolling hills, Kansas City has more miles of boulevards than Paris and more fountains than any city, except Rome. And, it abounds with the Mid-American friendliness that is sure to treat you royally.

There is much to do and see in Kansas City, whether your interests lie in history, arts and entertainment, sports, dining or shopping.

Historically, the development of the area began with the opening of the West by explorers and by pioneer wagon trains. Travelers bound for California, Oregon and Sante Fe could outfit their wagon trains at the post and supply station in Westport. Just a few blocks from the Crown Center Hotel, the Westport area today is a renovated historic district with some of Kansas City's oldest buildings as well as a concentration of numerous shops, courtyards, restaurants and nightlife establishments.

The infamous Jesse James is a name etched in the history of the Kansas City area, and in nearby Liberty is the site of the first daylight bank robbery in the United States.

On the other hand, for insight into the area's most famous resident and for a fascinating trip back into more recent history, be sure to take in the Harry S Truman Library and Museum. Located in Independence, only a twenty-minute drive from downtown Kansas City, it is one of only six presidential libraries in the country, and is perhaps the leading of such museums. Exhibition rooms illustrate the times of the Truman administration and display many valuable and historical artifacts collected by the Presi-



dent. One of the most popular exhibits is a reproduction of Truman's Oval Office in the White House. Until his death, Truman maintained an office in the building, and both he and his wife Bess are buried in the library courtyard. The Trumans' home, three blocks away, has been opened for public tours.

If the arts and entertainment are more in your line of interest, there is plenty to keep you busy. The diversity of musical offerings range from the Lyric Opera and the Kansas City Symphony right on to that famous Kansas City jazz. Live theatre, too, is alive and well on Kansas City stages. The American Heartland Theatre is a professional company performing well-known Broadway plays and musicals right within the Crown Center complex, which also houses a six-screen movie theatre.

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art ranks as the eighth largest general art museum in the country; its collection represents all civilizations from Sumeria in 3,000 B.C., to the present. The museum has achieved an international reputation for its Oriental collection, one of the finest assemblages of oriental art outside of China.

If you are in the market for out-and-out fun, look no further than Worlds of Fun, Kansas City's family-oriented theme park which draws over a million

visitors yearly. Beautifully landscaped, the 157-acre park is divided into five internationally themed areas. There are well over a hundred rides, attractions and live shows to keep everyone entertained. For the thrill seeker, Worlds of Fun offers some of the greatest rides in the country and features the Orient Express, the world's largest steel roller coaster. Next door is Oceans of Fun, a sixty-acre aquatic park with a million-gallon wave pool, pretzel-like water slides, and a five-acre lake with sandy beaches, among other attractions, for fun in the sun.

Water sports are one thing. Professional sports are another thing altogether. Avid sports fans will already know that the modern and magnificent Harry S Truman Sports Complex on the eastern edge of Kansas City is home to the Kansas City Royals baseball team and the Kansas City Chiefs football team. The teams play in the nation's only twin stadiums, the Royals in Royals Stadium and the Chiefs in Arrowhead Stadium, widely regarded as the finest of their kind.

Kansas City is well known for its fine food — Kansas City steaks and barbecue are justifiably famous and the city's restaurants enjoy a national reputation for variety and excellence ranging from traditional fare to ethnic specialties. And Kansas City is home to T. J. Cinnamons, the maker of those fabulous gourmet cinnamon rolls. For ultimate convenience, a multitude of restaurants and specialty food shops are readily available right within the Crown Center complex.

If shopping is your cup of tea, start saving your pennies right now. Kansas City has been known as a major shopping mecca every since pioneers bound

for the Santa Fe Trail stopped in Westport to stock their wagons. The Country Club Plaza, south of the downtown area, is the country's first shopping center. Modeled after Seville, Spain, the Plaza creates an exciting European atmosphere with its pastel-colored tile-roofed buildings and ironwork. Within the fourteen block district is a huge variety of shops, galleries and restaurants, as well as beautiful ornate towers, sparkling fountains and imported artwork and statuary. Thousands of visitors from surrounding states flock to the Plaza every year for the lights and the shopping of the Christmas season. You may wish to enjoy a hansom carriage ride to show you around this charming area.

Conventions will probably be astounded at the shopping available to them without even having to venture outside. The hotel is part of the Crown Center complex, a \$500 million, eighty-five acre "city within a city" financed and developed by Hallmark Cards, Inc. Three levels of unique shops, boutiques and restaurants await you just beyond the lobby of the hotel. More space will be devoted to describing this area for you in the next issue of the magazine; it will be a truly exciting and enjoyable setting for our convention. The hotel itself is considered a must-see attraction for visitors to the city.

Conventions are wonderful for making new friends and renewing old friendships as we gather to enjoy our beautiful African violets.

We look forward to greeting you in the marvelous surroundings of the Westin Crown Center Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. We are rolling out the red carpet for you. Come and GET THE ROYAL TREATMENT.

How To Publish A Club Newsletter

Nancy Robitaille

2260 Valequette

Chomedey Laval, P.Q., Canada H7M 3E8

All the necessary rules on how to publish a club newsletter are contained in the "Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors and Judges."

To begin with, you must consider the size of the newsletter. If you wish to develop your club's newsletter to meet the Handbook's requirement, your newsletter should contain less than 16 pages per

issue. It should be no larger than 8-1/2 inches by 14 inches.

When you send in the year's issues of your newsletter to be judged, they must be the same newsletters members received.

Newsletters usually have a masthead which occupies the top two or three inches of the first page.

All issues shall be considered in the total evaluation. Evaluation of a publication's overall quality shall be based on all issues taken as a whole.

The newsletter AVSA Scale of Points are as follows:

Distinctiveness, overall quality 20 points
Masthead 10 points
Information about African violets 45 points
Information about AVSA affiliate 15 points
Information about AVSA 10 points

Judges will consider the scale and proportion of decoration and lettering in relation to the size of the masthead. They will consider how well the design and lettering is executed.

Newsletter material should be arranged for reader appeal and ease of use. Continuations from one page to another should be properly identified and logically arranged.

Each item should be identified by a headline. All pages except the first should be numbered.

The newsletter should have an attractive appearance with good layout, spacing and reproduction.

Points are deducted for messiness, spelling and typographical errors, as well as a cramped or

crowded look.

Newsletters should have articles, but the requirement may be met by printing a number of brief items.

Complete information about meetings should be available for members. Other related events, such as flower shows, lectures, workshops, and so on, of interest to members, may receive credit.

(1) Under the scale of points, the first item is distinctiveness, overall quality (20 points), these three things should be considered:

- a. Organization of material (10 points)
- b. Beauty (5)
- c. Neatness (5)

(2) The masthead of the newsletter usually gives the Society's name, editor's name and phone number (or address), plus the Volume number and number of the issue, followed by the month and year of the issue. All this is contained in the masthead. Another feature you might consider is a separate boxed line marking the fact that your society is an affiliate of AVSA, since this fact must be printed somewhere in the newsletter. Or, possibly, a one-line greeting could make up the masthead.



African Violet Society of Greater Montreal Regd.
La Société de Violettes Africaines du Grand Montréal Ferg.

EDITOR, NANCY ROBITAILLE
Phone : 668-1547

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME III, No. 1
Jan.-Feb., 1988

AFFILIATES OF AVSA AND AVSC

The masthead (10 points possible) is judged by these qualities:

a. Design (7 points)
Consideration of principles of design (3 points)
Distinctness and originality (3 points)
Relation to African violets or locality (1 point)
b. Identification (3 points possible)

Affiliates name (your club's name) and AVSA affiliation (1 point)

Editor's name and address or phone number (1 point)

Year and/or volume number (1/2 point)

Month, season, and/or issue number (1/2 point)

(3) About African Violets (45 points possible)

a. Information (35 points possible - 5 points for

each following items)

1. African violet culture
2. African violet grooming
3. African violet propagation
4. Shows and preparing plants for shows
5. Exhibits and construction of designs
6. Judging horticulture and design exhibits
7. Other information about African violets.

b. Originality (10 points possible). If 80% or more is original, 10 points; if at least 70% is original, 8 points; and so on)

(4) About the Affiliate (15 points possible) (your club's information)

- a. Meeting information, calendar of events (5)
- b. News of members (5)

c. Show information, awards, and so on (5 points)
(5) About AVSA (10 points possible) (2 points possible for each item)

- a. AVSA membership benefits
- b. AVSA Convention and show
- c. AVSA awards
- d. Boyce Edens Research fund and AVSA Booster Fund

e. Other information about AVSA

This may seem technical when first reading it, but if you already have a newsletter, all that is necessary is the corrections.

Some editors may wish to begin with a message from the editor or from the president. One very interesting message from the president of the AVS of Edmonton Society brought a smile instead of a tear when she mentioned the summer tornado, saying, "Where else but in Edmonton would 10,000 people dance in a conga line after such a disaster?"

Newsletters may list the names of new members or the sad parting of a member. Plants wanted or light gardens for sale are always an interesting item for newsletters.

Reprints are "legal" in newsletters (with permission from the owner, of course), but originality is more important.

It is convenient to have several of the executive members' phone numbers listed. It is very important to list in each issue the date of the meetings. Some newsletters list the topics discussed, but if the topic must be changed at a late date, members may be disappointed.

A few things on the MUST LIST is very difficult to find. Can you write an article explaining what Boyce Edens Fund is? Research into the old African Violet Magazines will give you this information. AV Magazine should have an article every three years explaining this just for newsletter editors.

Pictures. As the old saying goes — they're worth a thousand words. A funny little bug by the side of a mite article might attract the eye. A picture of an African violet which has already been photocopied will sometimes come out very well, but more often, will be smudged black and white. If you have capable artists in your club, why not use their talents. Too often a newsletter editor does most or all the work in putting out the newsletter. But then, so does the glory!

Your club, if it is more than 10 or so in membership, needs a unifying source. Whether you send

your newsletters or members pick them up at meetings, you will find your club members are more informed in the club's activities, and information you have given them, through your newsletter.

It's Hardly Possible!

*Charl Duncan
Cape African Violet Society
Cape Town, South Africa*

Can an African violet, especially one which has had all its roots removed, survive for 30 days in the post? I can still hardly believe it, but our local members can attest this. No water, no air, but alive!

An airmail parcel arrived for me recently from USA, covered in red express stickers and was delivered to my door. Government regulations here in South Africa stipulate that all roots must be removed, and this parcel from one of my regular suppliers was just that. We have had an excellent relationship for a number of years; her parcels normally arriving within six days.

When my eye caught the date franked by the USA postal authorities, I was horrified - 16th June and today was 15th July. As most readers will know, our rand is half the equivalent of the dollar and it is a great sacrifice to import while our rand remains at the devalued rate.

Needless to say, with each dip into the box, out came a bag containing ... a black/brown gooey mush and the plastic plant label. I was near to tears and I don't know what prompted me to continue unpacking, but I did and the last baggie I removed contained Katsuko's Pearl. The fact that this survived is partly due to the wonderful packing and even more to Ronn Nadeau for hybridizing a plant of such a sturdy quality. I felt I must pay tribute to him. So not all was lost. I would like to know if this is a record.

Since sanctions, there is no longer a direct flight and our mail has to be routed through Europe/United Kingdom. The unworthy thought flashed into my mind "some sanctions fan somewhere along the line has delayed my precious parcel." All I know is that our African violet friends are genuine friends, and the love of our beloved plant spreads love one to another."

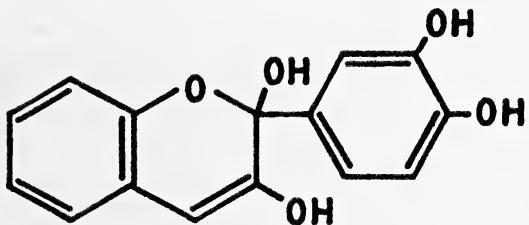
P.S. Various other orders since sanctions have arrived between 6-18 days!

The Pigments in African Violets

Dr. Jeff Smith, Ph. D
1359 Dorchester
Norman, OK 73069

One of the attractions of African violets is the wide range of color choices they offer. All of these colors, with the exception of white, belong to the same group of plant pigments called anthocyanins.

The anthocyanins are all based on a single chemical called cyanidin (Fig. 1). The color of this substance is altered by the addition or removal of hydroxyl groups (OH), by methylation (substitution of OH by OCH₃), or by the number and kinds of sugar molecules attached. These pigments are water soluble and are usually dissolved in the vacuoles of the petal cells, where they serve to attract insects for pollination. These same pigments may also be present in the leaf epidermal cells where they give the red backing observed in some varieties and the pink areas in the leaves of variegated leaf varieties.



The original color found in African violet flowers was a deep blue-purple. This pigment represents the final product in a multi-step manufacturing process. Each step of the pigment synthesis is controlled by a protein catalyst called an enzyme. The mutations that have resulted in colors such as pink, have usually been the loss of one or more of these enzymes. With the manufacturing process disrupted, the pigments made at earlier steps now become visible. Other mutations change the enzymes responsible for the methylation patterns or the number and types of sugars attached to the pigments.

The presence or absence of these enzymes is under the genetic control of the plant. Thus, flower color becomes a series of genes (one for each enzyme) that is inherited from parent to offspring.

Studies on the Africa Primrose *Streptocarpus* show at least 10 such genes. (Lawrence and Sturgess, 1957). The number for African violets has not been determined, but is likely to be similar.

Additional color variations are possible due to mixtures of several different anthocyanins in the same flower or the presence of co-pigments. In *Streptocarpus*, an ivory-white flavone called Apigenin has been found to act as a co-pigment and can be recognized by its bleaching action on the general flower color (Lawrence and Sturgess, 1957). The presence of co-pigments has been investigated in African violets, but their presence would help explain some of the differences in shades observed in the major color classes.

White flower color is not the result of an anthocyanin pigment and can originate in at least two ways. The anthocyanin manufacturing process can be totally prevented at one of the early steps through the loss of the beginning enzymes. The resulting white is basically a form of albinism and may be exemplified by the whites on the dark green foliage varieties. The other type of white is the result of an inhibition of the pigment synthesis process, not a complete loss of the necessary enzymes. The inhibitory factor may not give 100% inhibition, allowing some pigment and color to be expressed under conditions of ideal anthocyanin synthesis. This explains the faint color development observed in some white flowered varieties, especially those with light green foliage.

The synthesis of anthocyanins is affected by several environmental factors such as light and minerals. Light promotion of anthocyanin synthesis is mediated by at least two photoreactions: 1) a red/far-red reversible reaction and 2) a high-energy reaction activated by the blue/far-red spectral regions (Harbone and Mabry, 1982). This means that the type of light used to grow African violets may change the flower color. Sunlight is richer in the far-red region than artificial lighting and will result in more intense colors, especially in the pink and red flowered varieties. Fluorescent lighting which is far-

red poor will usually give slightly paler colors in these varieties, especially when cool-white tubes are used. The presence of metals in the growing medium can also intensify the anthocyanins. Magnesium, iron, and aluminum are known to affect the pigments themselves while copper has been shown to be needed for proper enzyme functioning during the anthocyanin synthesis process (Harbone, 1967). Some of the variations between plants of the same variety normally attributed to culture differences are likely due to the affects of light and minerals on anthocyanin synthesis and expression.

The dream of achieving a yellow African violet is perhaps difficult in plants with anthocyanin based pigments but not impossible. Yellow is not an easy color to introduce unless a yellow or partly yellow flowered species is available as a gene source. In snapdragons for example, yellow was present in a wild species as a lip pigment, so breeding a yellow self-colored flower simply involved spreading this pigment over the whole flower (Harbone, 1967). In petunias, the development of a pure yellow involved 25 years of work with the yellow present in the throat of some varieties (Sink, 1984). The yellow or gold present on the edges or petal backs of some African violet varieties may serve as a starting place for similar work toward a yellow African violet.

Another possible source of a yellow color might lie in the flavonoid pigments. These pigments are very similar to the anthocyanins and are developed from the same starting chemicals. Simple modifications in the hydroxyl or methyl group patterns or the sugars attached to these pigments (modifications already done to anthocyanins) are known to be responsible for the yellow flower color in a number of plants (Harbone, 1967). Mutations that delete the anthocyanins (such as true albins) and replace them with the flavonoids could eventually lead to yellow African violets.

In conclusion, the diversity of colors available in the anthocyanins has greatly enriched our enjoyment of African violets. The diversity in colors combined with changes in color pattern such as Geneva edges, flower shapes, and number of petals, makes for thousands of possible African violet flower types. So much variety has been developed in the past 100 years, only our imaginations might limit the hybridizing possibilities in the next century.

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Lowly African Violets??

Norma Tisher
506 Main, Cuite, NE 68333

Are your healthy African violets low on blooms, have small blossoms, or just simply sitting on the stand or window shelf? Maybe they have some dead wood and need restructuring with new soil ... the turkey necks or a root ball the size of your little finger may be the problem.

• Carefully remove the healthy plant. Empty and dispose of old soil. Scrape the salt buildup on the inside pot. Wash pot with bleach water. Dry thoroughly.

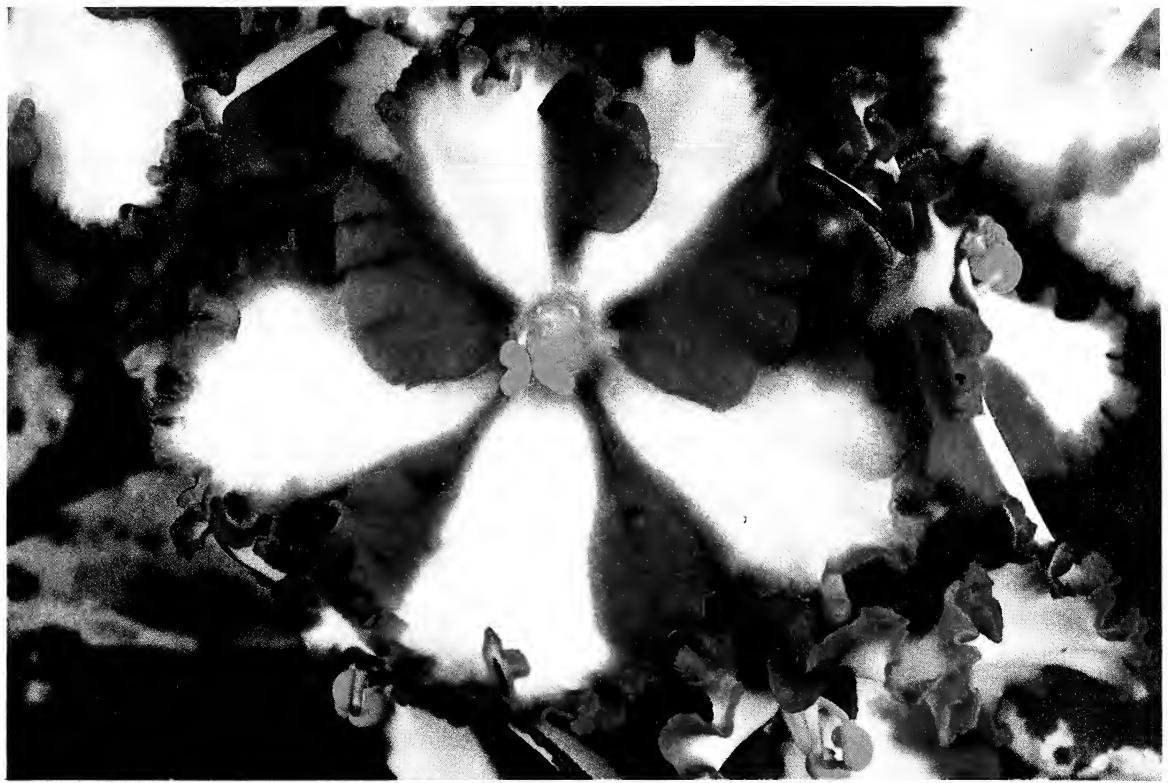
• Scrape the dry particles from the plant neck with a dull paring knife, and cut so you have about 1/2 inch plant neck in height; or cut away a section of the root ball (extra baggage) off. Leave some of the root on so it can root again. Also take off one or two rows of leggy, scrawny leaves of the plant.

• Then place new soil in pot: 4 parts of sterilized potting soil; 1 part perlite; 1 part vermiculite. Shake and bury a few grains of insecticide granules in soil.

• Make a small indentation in center of soil with the end of a laundry marking pencil; add moistened vermiculite in hole; then replant the trimmed plant in the vermiculite which will stimulate healthy new root growth. Press plant firmly in vermiculite. Pack soil loosely around centered plant. Center leaves are above the soil level.

• Water sparingly with strained rainwater until tiny roots grow and plants get stabilized with tender new root system. Place in filtered sunlight.

Soon healthy green center leaves and new blossom buds will be appearing. I have had some start blooming in 2 or 2-1/2 months following the plant restructuring. It is an easy way to save and keep your hardy and favorite African violets.



Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses, Paul & Sidney Sorano

(Photos by Paul Sorano)

Peppermint Lace
Snuggles Lil Dreamer



More About Lighting and Bulbs

Mrs. Lynda C. Welchel
San Antonio, Texas

Most of us use artificial lighting to grow our African violets. Much has been written and gathered on this subject. I have done some extensive reading, taken notes at many lectures, and kept records on lighting over the past three years and would like to present the following.

We have all observed that light hours change gradually from season to season. Most of us cannot take the time necessary to adjust our lighting conditions with astronomical precision and adjusting their timers a minute or two per day or turning their lights off and on at different times with any degree of accuracy matching Mother Nature in sunrise and sunset. I have found that adjusting my timers three or four times per year to reflect variations in natural light hours, and also taking temperature into consideration, does a very good job.

Research has proven that it is the night-length or total number of dark hours per 24-hour cycle that triggers flowering reactions.¹ African violets do best with equal amounts of light and darkness. Your plants need sleep too.

In our discussion of light we need to remember that the *quality of light, that is the band of colors called the spectrum* is as important to our plants as

the intensity or quantity of light. Green plants need certain colors of light to initiate normal cycles in growth and blooming. The *blue and red rays in the visible spectrum are essential factors for photosynthesis*. Photosynthesis is the process where plants with chlorophyll capture light energy and transform it into an organic form of stored energy for growth. For this process to occur with optimum efficiency, plants require adequate and balanced light.

Artificial lights, to induce optimum development, must contain the varied spectrum. Remember, sunlight contains all the necessary light rays. It is mainly the *blue rays that promote foliage growth and the red rays that produce that lovely head of flowers* we are striving to obtain.

With all the above in mind, manufacturers of fluorescent tubes have produced tubes that are higher in output of blue and red rays than are the common household lamps, such as Cool White. Many growers claim one of each type bulb does just as good as two specially produced horticultural bulbs, or two Cool White.

To support this premise I would like to present this chart.²

Energy Emission in Arbitrary Color Bands

40 Watt Fluorescent Lamps In Watts and Percent of Total Emission

	Band In Nanometers	Warm White		Cool White		Standard Watts	Gro-Lux Watts	Gro-Lux/WS Percent
		Watts	Percent	Watts	Percent			
Ultra Violet	<380	0.13	1.52	0.16	1.68	0.10	1.42	3.16
Violet	380-430	0.46	5.15	0.72	7.57	0.70	9.67	1.07 12.48
Blue	430-490	1.15	12.91	1.98	20.78	1.96	27.07	1.22 14.29
Green	490-560	1.80	20.24	2.35	24.67	1.02	14.02	1.24 14.49
Yellow	560-590	2.06	23.17	1.74	18.27	0.10	1.42	0.83 9.77
Orange	590-630	2.13	23.95	1.69	17.75	0.44	6.05	1.36 15.93
Red	630-700	1.03	11.53	0.81	8.47	2.86	39.55	1.86 21.78
Far-Red	700-780	0.13	1.53	0.07	0.81	0.06	0.80	0.69 8.10
	TOTAL	8.89	100.00	9.52	100.00	7.24	100.00	8.54 100.00

(Chart by GTE Sylvania)

The above chart shows that Gro-Lux lamps have about three times more usable red energy than Cool White lamps.³

I change all of my bulbs once a year. My system is the same as changing to daylight standard time, i.e., jump forward in the spring - change the bulbs in the front of the stand (Apr.), fall backwards in the fall for standard time and change the bulbs in the back of the stands in November. Using this system I do not burn any plants by changing more than one bulb per shelf and my plants have the advantage of new fresh bulbs before shows in February, March and April.

In addition to using the above system I found another way to determine if my bulbs were still putting out a suitable amount of light. Once you have determined that your plants are growing in a healthy manner and flowering under your light conditions do the following:

1. Write down the type of bulb and the wattage.
2. Using a camera with a built-in light meter, take a reading of reflected light off the palm of your hand, held at the same level as your healthy plants. Record whatever value is expressed by your meter.
3. To determine at a later date if your tubes are putting out sufficient light just repeat this process.

Fluorescent tubes normally continue to glow for several years, even on 14-16 hour light cycles. However, after about 5000 hours of burning, the tubes begin to lose enough brightness to affect plant growth. If tubes blacken on the ends they should be replaced. If you are currently not using two horticulture type bulbs, give it a try on one stand, or one shelf. Give your plants the optimum chance to reach their full potential. Happy violet growing.

References:

¹Garner, W. W. and Allard, H.A. - government scientists who studied plant reactions to day length.

²Chart by GTE Sylvania

³Fitch, C. M., The Complete Book of Houseplants Under Lights, Hawthorne Books, Inc., NY, NY

Thank you,
Texas Societies,
for a job
well done!

Magnetic Bubble Bowls

Cathy Cornibe
197 Archer Dr., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

After signing up to do a Bubble Bowl, I went home and re-read articles on Underwater Arrangements. The articles were all helpful, but they did not solve several of the problems that I encountered.

My biggest problems involved anchoring the materials, and coming up with a way to move those materials around quickly and easily as I made changes. After trying several unsuccessful methods, I discovered that "magnets" solved my problems.

Simply make a metal base and paint it with an enamel paint so it won't rust. Then use stick-em on the base to anchor it down to the bottom of your Bubble Bowl. Next, glue small magnets to the bottoms of all of your accessories, pin frogs, etc., with a clear silicone sealer. Let the sealer dry completely. After partially filling your Bubble Bowl with distilled water, simply lower your materials onto the base and move them around as often as necessary. (Distilled water works well for me.)

Marbles, or gravel, will hide the base and magnets, but the magnets can be camouflaged even more by painting them to match whatever they are glued onto. Use enamel paints that won't come off in water. Remember to rinse everything, including blossoms, several times to remove dust and residues that could cloud your water. Try different greens to achieve the look you want, and to learn which ones last the longest. Experiment with various methods of securing blossoms, putting each one in a separate glass. Check glasses daily for faded blossoms and cloudy water. If you are using any wire underwater, be sure to test it first to see if it rusts. Brass wire works very well, and it bends easily. Invisible thread also comes in handy to use underwater; just be sure to cut off any excess thread so it won't show.

After your design is together, stand back and look at it objectively. Keep in mind that points are deducted for any mechanics that show, and for any materials that touch the sides or the top of the Bubble Bowl. Simplify your design if it looks too cluttered. Use a brush with a long handle to "brush away" those air bubbles. Don't forget to bring your brush to the show with you.

The main thing to remember is to start practicing as early as possible after you sign up. Read your show schedule several times to be sure that you understand it. If you have enough time you can usually figure out a solution to any problem that comes up.



Mixed Magic
(AVSA Library Collection)

Hortense Pittman, San Antonio, Texas

Space Secrets



Dr. B's Guide For Growing African Violets In the Desert Southwest

Barbara Vander Leest Ph.D.

Dr. B's Digs

#16 Spanish Village

P. O. Box 733

Carefree, AZ 85377

Before you say you can't... let's displace some of the myths of African violet growing. First, you've heard that African violets are hard to grow. This is simply not true. With just a little bit of knowledge and a bright spot in your home, you can have beautiful violets blooming year round! Second, you've heard that African violets can't be successfully grown in a desert climate. If you heat your home in the winter and cool it in the summer, there are no problems raising violets in the desert southwest. If you travel and are away from home a lot, your violets can still survive with a little preparation. In other words, there's no reason why you should not enjoy beautiful blooming African violets around your home whether you prefer one or dozens.

Raising violets here in central Arizona is significantly different from other parts of the country. There are many excellent books on violet culture, but none tackle the unique problems of the desert southwest. My purpose here is to fill this void and to pass on the knowledge gleaned from my successes and failures in violet growing. I cannot take credit for "inventing" these tips, and can attribute most of them to my ever helpful friends in the Desert Sun African Violet Society of the Phoenix area.

Basic Violeting

The first thing you must remember is to not kill your beautiful new violet *before* you get it home. This may be obvious to you, but many people forget that violets cannot tolerate the extremes of temperature found in the Arizona automobile. Specifically, do not put your new violet in the car and continue your shopping during hot weather. Temperatures in closed cars often rise to 120° and higher. These temperatures will cook a violet as surely as they can kill people and pets. When you are driving your air conditioned car, don't allow the cold air to blow directly on the violet or the sun to shine through the window onto the violet for any period of time.



Naturally these same considerations apply to the few days when the temperature is below 55°F. The easiest rule is that if you are comfortable with a temperature, your violet will be also.

Light

Once you've made it home with your violet, you need to find a bright spot to put it. Violets need a lot of light to bloom. If you have only one or a few violets, natural light will work just fine. A bright window or skylight which doesn't get direct sun is usually ideal. If all your windows get direct sun, choose the east window; early morning sun isn't nearly as harsh as midday or afternoon sun. What this means is that a north or east window is usually best, although a south exposure with a large overhang can also provide adequate protection. Windows with sunscreens will not allow sufficient light for your violet to thrive. If you have sunscreens on your north windows too, you may need artificial light to keep your violets blooming.

African violets, like most plants, will grow toward their light source. This means that plants on a windowsill will grow toward the window and become misshapen. To avoid this and to keep a symmetrical plant, turn the plant a quarter turn every

third day or so. If you're like me, you won't remember which direction you turned the plant last, so make a mental decision to always turn clockwise or counterclockwise. It doesn't make any difference but be consistent. If your plant is wicked (which it should be here in the desert), be sure to turn the pot and the reservoir, or you'll pull the wick out with each turn.

If you opt to use artificial light either as the sole light source or as a supplement to natural light, allow me to give a few quick pointers. Any artificial light will help your violet to grow and bloom, although some lights have wider or more complete light spectrums and so are a stronger energy source. (Light is after all the energy fuel which plants need to live and grow. The nutrients in fertilizer are merely the building materials for the photosynthesis process.) Either an incandescent (light bulbs, or a fluorescent (tubes) light source can be used. The fixture should be about 8-15 inches above the plant for the violet to make best use of the light. I try to maintain a 10-12 inch spacing on my light stands which I find ideal.

There are many different "grow lights" on the market today, but you needn't go to this extra expense. Regular incandescent or cool white fluorescent tubes will grow fine plants. If you do plan to go with plant lights, what I use is a combination of one cool white tube and one wide spectrum grow light in each fixture. I find this gives me the full light spectrum without costing too much or distorting the beauty of my violets with colored light.

My light stands are all on automatic timers so I know exactly how many hours of light my plants are receiving. Violets need a period of darkness, at least 8 hours, for best long term results. Lights left on full time will eventually exhaust the plant. I usually run my lights about 12-14 hours a day. I will increase my light to 16 hours when I'm preparing for a show, and decrease it as low as 10 hours in the hot summer.

Temperature

Violets are happiest at the same temperatures we are, that's why they are such popular houseplants. Ideally, violets are happiest at 65°-75°F, which is the temperature range most of us keep our homes. (A five degree temperature drop at night, which is common in many of our homes, seems to be a welcome condition for violets.) Temperatures should not dip below 55° for any length of time without some damage to be expected. On the upper end of the scale there are more variables, but violets

get very unhappy above 90°. My plant room at home often reaches 90° in the summer, but I deal with the problem by keeping a ceiling fan and often a circulating fan on in the room during the hot daylight hours. The circulating air helps to keep the plants cool just as it does for us. I also turn off my lights on the hottest days because the lights create a good deal of heat on their own. Even with these precautions I occasionally lose plants in the summer, usually in the relatively more humid "monsoon" season when the added humidity makes crown rot and petiole rot (fungus diseases) more of a danger. Since most of you keep your homes well below 90° in the summer, this shouldn't be a big problem for the majority of southwestern violet growers.

Air Circulation

If you have only one or a few plants on a windowsill, air circulation will not be a problem. But if violet fever takes over and suddenly you have crowds of plants under lights in every unused corner of your home, you need to pay attention to this potential pitfall. Violets crowded together do not get adequate air circulation and are prone to develop crown or petiole rot. If you can't spread your violets out, you need to provide a fan to keep the air from becoming stagnant. The fan need not blast away at the plants but shoud just gently move the air with only the slightest movement evident on the plant.

Watering

More violets have been killed by the manner in which they have been watered than by any other means. When people tell me they have "black thumbs" and always kill their violets (and often all their houseplants), it can nearly always be pinned down to their watering habits. Under watering and over watering can both kill a violet in a short time. Under watering kills the roots and dehydrates the plant very quickly in the desert southwest. If you have a plant with dry soil and soft droopy leaves, it needs water fast. Plain, room temperature water is best for violets needing emergency moisture. Over watering can also kill the root system and drown the plant by forcing all the air out of pockets in the soil so the roots can't "breathe." These plants are also more susceptible to root rot and other fungus diseases. Over watered plants may also turn limp, but in this case the soil is damp not dry.

The key to watering violets is understanding that they like to be slightly moist all the time. They don't really like cycles of wet and dry as happens when

you flood a plant and then allow it to dry out before watering again. The wick watering system, which I use and recommend for all desert violet growers, keeps each violet evenly moist as long as the reservoir is maintained with solution. The wick watering system is based on the principle of capillary action. In other words, if you start with damp soil and a damp wick, the wick will transport water up to the soil as it is used by the plant or as it evaporates off the soil surface. If the wick and soil completely dry out, the capillary action must be begun again by submerging the bottom 1/3 or more of the pot in water until the soil and wick are again wet enough to draw water from the reservoir. This is a self watering system but you still must remember to fill the reservoir (usually every 1-2 weeks depending on size of reservoir) and be sure that the wick has an unobstructed drop into the reservoir.

Most string or cord will do as wicking material but I have the best results with cheap acrylic yarn. Don't use wool or cotton yarn as they both disintegrate too quickly. Strips of old nylons are also popular although I don't care for the looks of these wicks. The Volkmann Reservoir Wick Pot comes with a wick of nylon cord. This works well but can be substituted by yarn when it's time to repot. Do not reuse your old wicks. They get clogged up with fertilizer salts and minerals and will eventually rot off.

Fertilizing

Fertilizer supplies the nutrients which the plant needs in order to convert light energy into living plant tissue. The wick watering system allows you to fertilize your plant continually as you water it. By adding a constant feed fertilizer to your reservoir solution you can take the guess work out of remembering to fertilize. Most of these constant feed fertilizers are a powder and mix 1/4 teaspoon to a gallon of water. Plastic milk cartons are convenient for mixing and storing your fertilizer solution as they can be easily stored away until it's time to refill the reservoirs. This method of fertilizing your plants supplies the plant with a little fertilizer all the time instead of a lot supplied only occasionally. Please remember to read the label of whatever fertilizer you are using in order to mix the proper strength solution. You can kill your violets by over fertilizing too.

Fertilizers generally are labeled with three numbers, which indicate the proportion of three important nutrients in the mix. For example, the Volkmann

Constant Feed Fertilizer is labeled 15-30-15. This means the fertilizer is 15% nitrogen, 30% phosphorus and 15% potassium (or potash). The three elements are always in this same order, so the label formula allows you to pick a fertilizer which suits your particular needs. Generally, the middle number (phosphorus) is twice the other numbers in violet fertilizers because this element promotes blooming. The first number (nitrogen) promotes leaf and plant stem growth, while the third number (potassium or potash) helps to ward off disease and intensify plant and bloom color. You may notice that the three percentages do not add up to 100%. In the case of our example, 40% of the mix is inert materials.

When plants are continually watered and fertilized from the bottom, a build up of fertilizer salts takes place in the soil. This can be seen as a white crust on the top of the soil. Fertilizer salts build up can stunt the growth of your plant, but is easily remedied. If it is not time to repot your violet, you can leach out the fertilizer salts. Take your plant off the reservoir and hold it over your sink. Gently and slowly pour lukewarm to slightly warmer water into the pot and allow it to run through the soil and out the bottom of the pot. At least 8 oz. is necessary to wash the salts out of the soil although I usually use twice that amount. Be sure to pour slowly so as not to wash the soil out of the top of the plant. Also be careful *not* to get water into the crown of the plant. If this accidentally happens, take a tissue and gently dry the crown. After leaching leave the wick out of the reservoir for one or two days before returning it to the water.

Soil

Wick watered African violets need a very light soil to thrive. Because wicking violets keeps them evenly moist, a too heavy soil will hold too much water, force the air out of the soil, and drown the plant. A light soil will hold comparatively less water and is thus able to maintain sufficient air in the soil. The potting mix I use and recommend is a soilless mix. This means there is no soil or humus in the mix. The mix is composed of peat moss, vermiculite and perlite with small amounts of horticultural charcoal and dolomite lime. Nearly every violet grower has his or her own slightly different recipe for violet soil. Therefore, I don't mean to imply that the mix I use, or the proportions in the mix, are the only ones which will grow decent violets. I'll just pass along what works for me.

Dr. B's A V Potting Mix

(1 part may be any measure you like)

- 2 part peat moss
- 1 part vermiculite
- 1 part perlite
- 1/4 part charcoal
- 1 Tablespoon dolomite lime/
- 5 quart mixture

If you are mixing your own, you really needn't be concerned about adding the dolomite lime. It helps to maintain soil pH, but can be omitted if necessary. (Some people substitute crushed egg shells for the lime.)

If you buy commercial African violet potting soils from nurseries or grocery stores, be aware that these mixes may contain humus and are not formulated for wick watered violets. These mixes can be used by adding perlite to lighten the mix. I can't tell you exactly how much perlite to add because commercial violet mixes vary greatly, but you may need as much as one part perlite per one part commercial mix. Charcoal may also be absent in these mixes.

Tips To Grow By

Grooming

One of the "tricks" to beautiful African violets is keeping them well groomed. Grooming need not be a major chore but simply a quick once over as you fill the reservoir. When grooming you want to remove dead blooms and spent blossom stems, old or damaged leaves and any sucker to appear since you last groomed the plant. Suckers are small plantlets which sprout from the plant stem or pop up through the soil. These suckers, if left on the violet, will form a second or multiple crown to the plant. Each crown will sap strength from the other, competing for nutrients and light. Eventually the plant will become a jumbled mass of crowns and leaves bearing little resemblance to the beautiful blooming plant you started with.

Suckers can be distinguished from emerging blossom stems when four leaves are present. Blossom stems never have more than two leaves. A pencil, knife or any pointed implement can be used to pluck the sucker away from the plant stem so it may be discarded. If for some reason you want to propagate a sucker, leave it on the parent plant until four or more fully formed leaves are discernible. I try to always remove suckers as soon as I see them unless I'm trying to propagate more of a particular violet variety. The distortion caused by suckers can take months to grow away if they aren't removed

promptly.

When To Repot

All my violets have a label with the hybrid name and a date written on with waterproof marker. The date on the label is the date that the plant was last repotted. Regardless of looks, all violets should be repotted at least once a year. I try to repot my mature plants every six months. The plants really appreciate the fresh soil and will usually immediately go into a growth spurt if the soil ball has not been cut back too much.

Younger plants need to be repotted into larger pots when the plant diameter (leaf tip to leaf tip) is more than three times the pot size. This is only a general rule but it works pretty well. For example, I use 2-1/2, 3-1/2 and 4-1/2 inch pots for my stock. A starter plant (2-1/2 inch pot) is repotted when it is about 8 inches in diameter, plants in 3-1/2 inch pots are repotted when they are about 12 inches in diameter. The large 4-1/2 inch pots are the largest I use. I have plants 18 inches in diameter in this size pot. Once the plants are in the large pots, repotting involves cutting the plant down some and repotting it in the same size pot. This is done, in my case, every six months or whenever the neck or stem of the violet has a gap of over one inch between the soil and the first row of leaves.

A repotted violet should sit low enough in the pot for the soil to reach the base of the lowest row of leaves. If a neck has formed scrape it with your fingernail or a knife to rough-up the scab which forms there. New roots will grow out of this neck to support the violet. When repotting, break away as much of the old soil as will fall away. After doing this it may be necessary to cut off part of the root ball so the plant can be repotted down in the pot. Just take a knife and slice through the root ball. Try to leave some roots to help the plant get restarted.

Seasonal Suggestions

It's the hot and dry climate which makes growing violets in Arizona different from other parts of the country. This is why we use plastic pots instead of clay pots and why we wick water. I've already mentioned the increased need for good air circulation in the summer months. It's also a good idea in the summer to cut back on fertilizer. If your home doesn't stay a comfortable 75° all summer I suggest that you cut your fertilizer in half (i.e., use 1/8 teaspoon instead of 1/4). Your plants won't grow as much during the stressful summer, so reducing the

fertilizer decreases the risk of fertilizer burn. If you have only one or two violets, you may need to mist your plants once a day. Wicked violets tend to create a small humid atmosphere around a grouping of plants, but only one or two plants may not be sufficient to maintain adequate humidity. Never mist a plant which is in the sunlight.

Going On Vacation

The second most common problem I hear from people is that they are going on vacation for a few weeks or going back east for four months and don't know what to do with their violets. You and your violets can survive these traumas with a little planning. If you're only going to be gone for up to two weeks, a good sized (16 oz.) reservoir will usually last that long. If you know that you fill your reservoirs more often than that, then perhaps you need Plan B.

Plan B is where you recruit a friend or neighbor to come in once a week to water your plants. Most Plan B recruits try to get out of this duty by pleading a plant killer instinct (this may in fact have been demonstrated last summer). In any case, now that you are wicking your violets you can assure your friendly violet assassin that all they need do is fill your plant reservoirs once a week with your pre-mixed solution. Even the worst "black thumb" can usually handle this chore. If you completely turn off your air conditioner when you leave, perhaps you'd better find a Plan B recruit who will take your plants into their home. While this can test a friendship, it's usually no worse than the dog and canary they dump on you whenever they leave town.

If you leave Arizona for the summer months, your vacation plan will be more complex. If you don't take your plants with you (some people do), you need to find one or more friends to take them. You'll need to buy them sufficient fertilizer to last however long you'll be gone, and you need to make sure they know the light requirements of your violet so it doesn't end up cooked in the summer sun. Every fall I have one or two desperate people come in to replace a violet they were babysitting and managed to kill by placing it: 1) outside, 2) in the sun, 3) next to the dog's food, or 4) on top of the washing machine into which it fell. You need to accept that if you leave a plant with someone for a long period it may not survive for any number of hilariously bizarre reasons. Assure your friend you'll understand if it doesn't survive and will just replace it when you

get back. After all, a friend who'll take your violets for the summer can't be replaced as easily as the violets!

Happy Violeting!

Another Grower's Experiences

*Mrs. Billie Merkerson
216-11 31st Road
Bayside, NY 11360*

After sitting in the "catbird seat" for an hour or so at the classification desk for the 31st annual show of the AVS of Greater New York, I must congratulate some of the newer members and some of the older members who have been "slow starters"! The plants were gorgeous (and I'm jealous). They were big, clean and very floriferous.

Looking at these beauties and then at my undersized offerings, I've come to some conclusions:

1. Loose, loose, loose soil.
2. Dump losers and really pay close attention to "winners-in-waiting."

One or two other words of advice I learned early in my career of "trying" to grow African violets and other gesneriads:

1. Join the African Violet Society of America and the New York State African Violet Society (or a local club). Most will have valuable publications with hundreds of articles which will help in growing our favorite plants. Besides joining, how about buying the *Master Variety Lists* plus the *Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors and Judges*.

2. Listen to the speakers at meetings and glean something from their experience and expertise.

3. Always, always isolate new plants, no matter who gave them to you or where you got them.

4. Share . . . leaves, plants, knowledge and love.

Do not neglect your plants. Cleanliness and vigilance are so important.

Pots should be cleaned thoroughly if they are to be used again. I usually soak them in hot soapy water and chlorine bleach for a few days - check them and if they're not all clean, return them to their soak until you're satisfied.

As to further protect my plants, my shelves must also be thoroughly washed down, and my fluores-

cent tubes washed to give me all the light I'm paying for. I am also careful not to handle a "suspicious" plant without washing my hands afterwards.

One other caution Marcy Koester taught me a few years ago — never go to your violets after you've been working in your garden. You can bring in all kinds of unwelcome visitors. African violets are very hardy plants, but like us all, they need TLC and don't like to be forgotten.

Another Use for Egg Cartons

Peg West
Route 1, Box 299
McConnellsburg, PA 17233

For those of you who prefer rooting African violet leaves in water, as I do, may I share my "brainchild" with you.

Turning polyfoam egg cartons upside down, I saw or cut the bottoms off so that short medicine vials will fit snugly in the holes.

I impose upon the drugstore pharmacist to sell me these vials. By advising him in advance he can order a case (450) of P-8 8-1/2 dram vials. In this way he does not cut into his supply.

A weekly check and renewal of water is needed. To hasten this chore I use an extra carton all ready to transpose leaves into, not yet rooted. Then I re-water the one I just emptied, and continue. In two to three weeks the leaves are well rooted, ready for potting.

I now have approximately 3,000 plants started in this manner.

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Use the Washing Machine For Washing Your Pots

Lilian Laufer
204 Georgian Way
Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada

Tired of washing plastic pots by hand?

Try this: one old washing machine, dirty plastic pots, one big tub, strong solution of bleach and hot water.

Take one big tub, mix strong solution of hot water and bleach, and throw pots in to soak for three days. Swish pots thoroughly as you remove them out of the tub to dislodge any remaining soil. Set washer on warm water and gentle cycle, put in pots and let run through the cycle.

Presto, pots are clean, and you have no backache and have saved yourself hours of work. Stack pots to dry. It works for me.



WINNERS of the NASA Area AVS' show, "Violets 'n' Lace," were Best of Show, 'Tiger,' Melba Bradbery; First Runner Up, 'Kathe Denise,' Best Trailing, 'Twice Pink,' Charlsie Urquhart and Best Gesneriad, 'Strep. Blue Mars,' Jr. Queen of Show, 'Mickey Mouse,' Tom SoRelle.

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Fantasy On Edge: Med. pink SD w/wavy edge. Spattered & streaked w/dark blue. Med. green foliage, quilted pointed, tailored. Std.

Jimmy Neil: Pure white SD w/bright blue border. Creamy-white and light green variegated foliage. A pretty combination! Std.

Purple Pom Pom: Many little plum-purple fluffy pom pom blossoms crown serrated, smooth, med. green foliage. Beautiful shape. Semimini.

Admirable: Same blossom as Peggy Skidmore, but the foliage is unusual. Light green & white variegation. Leaves are very smooth, almost hairless, and shiny. Unique! Std. Prices good from May 1, 1988 to Sept. 1, 1988 - No Shipping after Sept. 1.

Please make checks payable to: Admiral Violets. Thank you. Katie Skelton, 3660 Walnut Dr., Rescue, CA 95672

Cobblestone Violets

It's spring and raining violets!

FRESH CUT LEAVES FROM: Cox, Boone, Lyon, Williams, Champion, Fredette, Smith, Stork, and many more.

List 50¢ - Prior notification of shipping date

Virginia & Jack Martz
phone 913-867-2920

323 N. Main
Greeley, KS 66033



PATTY'S PLANT PLACE



The latest and the best in African Violets from Fredette, Champion, Cox, Hortense, Granger, etc.

We're easy to find - just 20 miles West of Wichita on Hwy. 54. Take K251 exit then south 2 miles.

To receive our Spring 1988 mailorder catalog, please send 50 cents in stamps or coins along with your name and address (please print clearly).

Patricia Daniel

Rt. 2, Box 41, Cheney, Kansas 67025 - Ph. 316-542-0371

"NEVER HAD SO MANY BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS!"

"WON 8 BLUE RIBBONS" • "CAN'T BE WITHOUT IT" • "I'M THE ENVY OF MY CLUB"

If you are serious about your African Violets and want them to be radiantly beautiful with full blooms and last longer you've got to try GRANNY'S BLOOMERS the formula contains the key trace elements

To keep your violet strong rooted with rich green leaves you need JUNGLE JUICE also good for strong root & leaf systems.

CACTUS JUICE with cactus loving high calcium and lots of trace for all your cacti and bromeliads.

FLOWER CRACKER is good for all your indoor and outdoor flowering plants excellent for your impatiens, geraniums, begonia, etc.

ORCHIDS EXOTICA super balanced orchid food excellent for all types of orchids.

MOONSHINE safe water soluble no-wipe leaf shine excellent of all your hard leaf plants.

GREENUP for all your sick yellowing plants contains lots of iron zinc, etc.

CLAREL LABORATORIES, INC. DEERFIELD, IL 60015

Granny.

I am enclosing \$ _____, please send me

____ 2 oz. JUNGLE JUICE \$2.00 ea. _____

____ 2 oz. GRANNY'S BLOOMERS \$2.00 ea. _____

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____ 6 oz. JUNGLE JUICE \$3.00 ea. _____

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____ 6 oz. CACTUS JUICE \$3.00 ea. _____

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____ 6 oz. ORCHIDS EXOTICA ... \$0.00 ea. _____

____ 1 pint JUNGLE JUICE \$5.50 ea. _____

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100% Guaranteed!

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SAVE \$1.48 Any 4-2 oz. 1 6.50 ppd. _____

Specify _____

SAVE \$1.40 Any 4-6 oz. \$10.56 ppd. _____

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SAVE! Any 4 pts. \$20.00

All prices include postage.

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Name _____

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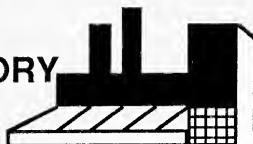
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Proven Varieties from Top Hybridizers

Send Large SASE
for extensive list of
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Over 500 varieties - many new, many old. Send \$1.00 for list, deductible with first order. Authorized distributor of "Fredette Originals" and "Rob's" hybrids, as well as the latest from Sandra Williams, Lyon and Pittman. We will ship leaves only, anywhere in the United States



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African Violets And Supplies
Introductory price on Starter Plants - \$1.95
Send 35¢ for list - Shipping May thru Oct.
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"Schultz-Instant"® ULTRA PURE CONCENTRATED ALL PURPOSE LIQUID PLANT FOOD

EASY DIRECTIONS
"7 drops per quart water
Every time you water,
Every thing you grow."

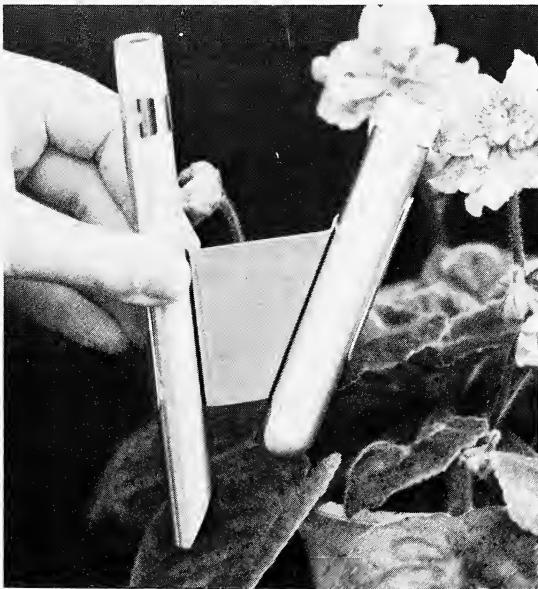


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Every time you water,
Every thing you grow."



Available at leading Garden Centers and Plant Departments.
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THE MICRO-MIKE POCKET MICROSCOPE

Feather-light, powerful, and under 5" long. Delivers a clear, instantly focused image enlarged 20 times. Just rest it on the object you are looking at and it's in focus automatically. No adjustment necessary. Great for trying to figure out what kind of insect may be on your violets or other houseplants. Very useful for outdoor gardening too. Helps in identifying problems so that you can treat them properly and more effectively. Clearly shows thrips, foliar and soil mealybug, mites, fungus gnats, aphids, and more. Use it to give a new plant the "once over" before you let it in the door. Beveled end opening gathers and focuses light. Shown with MICRO-LITE (available separately) which uses 2 AAA batteries (not included) for use in hard to see places. Free catalog included.

MICRO-MIKE Pocket Microscope \$17.50
MICRO-LITE \$13.50
Special Offer: Both the microscope and the light in a plastic pouch \$27.50
Prices include shipping and handling. Colo. residents add 3% sales tax. (Orders outside USA add \$3.00 for air mail and insurance.)

These items are also sold separately through our supplies catalog. Send \$1.00 for the complete plant stands and supplies catalog/descriptive plant list. Clubs/large scale growers ask for our discount bulk supplies list with your catalog/list.

SORRY, NO FREE LITERATURE; NO PHONE SALES.

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OYAMA 'TEXAS STYLE' PLANTERS®



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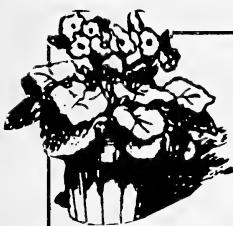
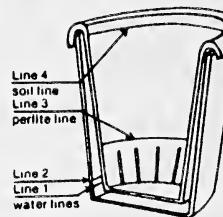
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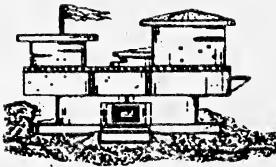


! 48 HOURS !

ALL ORDERS SHIPPED WITHIN 48 WORKING HOURS WITH SUBSTITUTES LISTED. New & older varieties of African Violets, from leading hybridizers, and our own new plants. All orders before July 31 will receive **2 FREE PLANTS** with every 10 plants ordered. Send \$1 for our new 1988 catalog, or order from our ad in the Jan. & Mar. issues of AVM. Try our super special 12 Husky Starters - all different - \$20 Postpaid - All plants our choice. VISA-MASTERCARD - List all info on card-Min. card order \$25.

FANTASYLAND VIOLETS

*The King of the Castle
has decreed it's time to
empty the dungeons of
all its homeless waifs.*



*So the Queen has
proclaimed May 1st
thru July 1st our
"adoption" special season.*

With a minimum \$25 purchase (excluding postage) you may "adopt" a special group package which consists of 1 waif (starter) each - chimera, mini, trailer, standard, episcia and streptocarpus - for only an additional \$7.50 (our choice only, but you may give us some hints though!)

Please help us give these waifs a loving home!
... or send \$1.00 for our 2,500 variety list today.

Matt and Judi Kingsbury
Rt. 1 Box 11B

Clayton, WI 54004
715-948-2455

BIG SKY VIOLETS

Having problems keeping your "Little Jewels" moist? Now available. Wick Reservoirs for Mini Pots in four colors: Crystal, Yellow, Lavender, Watermelon. Price: \$1.29 ea; 10 for \$12.15; 25 for \$29.95. Mixed or all one color.

Rt. 2 Box 55

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Angelika Brooks

African Violets from *Rocky Knoll Greenhouse*

ROUTE 2, BOX 306A, WAYNESBORO, VA 22980
Phone (703) 943-9772

Selections from leading hybridizers

Leaves - \$9.00/Doz. (My choice)

12.00/Doz. (Your choice)

Starter Plants - \$2.75 each

List - \$1.00 (refundable)

Minimum order - \$15.00

Shipping/Handling - \$3 min., 15%

Virginia residents add 4.5% Sales Tax

UPS 2nd day air, add \$3.00

Shipments USA only

TOMARA AFRICAN VIOLETS

As indicated in our November ad, we will not be shipping plants in 1988. However, we will be open for walk-in business, and welcome you to stop by if you are in the area. It would be advisable to call ahead.

New for 1988 from Fredette: Angelica, Easter Joy, Jacey, Lovely Linda, Lucky Duck, Orchid Lily, Nianic, Party Line, Pretty in Blue, Pretty in Pink, Pretty in Red, Princess Moonbeam, Ricochet, Rosy Image, Sunbird, Twin Pretty, Wood Rose.

Betty Bryant: Ann, American Dynamo, Bashful Beauty, Bill Foster, Blackie Bryant, Carol Thomas, Dallas Doozie, Gladys, Gorgeous Geanie, Lovely Lorine, Lynda, Mint Julep, Texas Blue Moon, Royal Tizzy, Texas Sunbonnet, Yvonne.

Sandra Williams: Morning Mocha, Suncoast Aglitter, SC Antique, SC Candy Lace, SC Garden Party, SC Purely Joyous, SC Sapphire, SC Wedgewood.

We will still have many of the older Fredette varieties as well as varieties from other hybridizers.

MRS. R. D. TOMPKIN

Rt. 3, Box 116 Fayette, MO 65248 Ph: 816-248-3232
Visitors Welcome (9-5) Sunday by appointment

Annalee Violetry

The Source

Established 1960

28-27 214th Place Bayside, NY 11360 (718) 224-3376

PRESENTING VIOLETS IN VOGUE

CHIMERA - propagated from suckers, known also as pinwheels.

8-511 KIWI GLORY (DS) pix pg 25 AVM 1/2-88. Big red purple sgl blooms, very free flowering, plain foliage\$25

(This was inadvertently omitted from our list, order from this ad and add to your list.)

8-508 OVATION (DC) big ruffled pink stars, cerise center stripe, ruffled foliage\$35

Other Varieties - \$3.35 - minimum order 3

8-528 *ANGELICA (IF) beautiful pink ruffled pan-sies, show foliage, floriferous

8-507 *COMET BLUE (MT) s/dbl vibrant lite blue blooms interesting variegated pattern, show plant

8-529 DOLL FESTIVAL (IF) many dbl ruffled shell pink blooms, glossy dark foliage

8-530 *GEORGENE (IF) s/dbl large ruffled red stars, ruffled variegated foliage, pretty show plant

8-557 HANKY PANKY (IF) s/dbl pink w/purple fantasy, dark show foliage, loads of bloom

8-514 LOUISE CROTEAU (DC) clusters of pure white blooms, dark polished foliage, striking show plant

8-531 *LOVELY LINDA (IF) dbl rosy pink, center clusters like gardenia, prolific, show plant

8-443 OUR MAID MARION (BE) dbl pink dbl edged with fuchsia then white, striking

8-569 TRIXY TRAIL (BE) dbl pink with bronzy green foliage, bloom heavy, shapes well

8-502 VAMPIRE'S KISS (B) dbl black/red blooms crown plain dark green foliage, special color

8-498 WINNERFUL (AEA) s/dbl tutone lavender, darker eye, tons of bloom, T/L foliage, mini

8-494 MAVERICK DESERT OASIS (WS) s/dbl fringed white bright green edge, ruffled glossy foliage, show stopper

* denotes variegated foliage

To the prices indicated above please add SHIPPING CHARGES - 48-States \$3.75, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico \$6.50, per order; HANDLING CHARGE - 25 cents per plant. All shipments are made UPS 2nd Day Air

Check our ads in the AVM 1/2-88 and 3/4-88 for more terrific varieties. \$1.00 brings you our all new 1988 Variety List.

**SHIRLEY'S
HOUSE OF
VIOLETS**

NEW FOR 1988!!

21 standards from FREDETTE - 13 of these are naturally symmetrical and will make show plants without special effort!

7 standards from HOBBS (Dean) with perfect symmetry. Real Beauties!

12 Minis and semiminis from HORTENSE - All winners!!

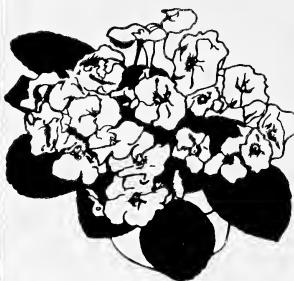
Beautiful plants will be available from — KENT, BOONE, LYON, GRANGER and WRANGLER. We will still feature some of the older varieties of these hybridizers and the best of Maas and Utz. Our new descriptive list is available for 50¢.

24 new leaves of our choice labeled - \$18.00

New and previous releases of our choice labeled - 24 for \$14.00 or 50 for \$25.00

We ship priority mail all year in the South - weather permitting and in the North starting in late April. Texans add 6% tax. Please make check payable to Shirley Sanders, 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio, TX 78221 Telephone: 512-923-1093

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**America's Finest
African Violets**



- Write for our fascinating color catalog and growing tips - 50¢

- Visit our greenhouses and retail store. Open 7 days a week, year long

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OAK AVENUE

Dept. A-LINWOOD, N.J. 08221

**Want To Do Something Fantastic
For Your African Violets?
Get Them A FLORACART!**

Once you have a FloraCart, you'll wonder why you didn't get one a long time ago. You'll continuously raise luxurious African Violets - force spring flowering bulbs and get strong plants from all seeds and cuttings. FloraCart makes indoor gardening easy. Rugged lifetime aluminum tubing construction, adjustable shelves and heavy duty 3" casters are standard. Comes with 19" x 49" x 1 1/2" beautiful high-impact molded fiberglass trays - easily cleaned, impervious to moisture, chemicals and weather. Combolite fixtures are designed for excellent flower culture. 2 tray models, \$159.00; 3 tray models, \$229.00 PREPAID.

Shipped UPS - PREPAID (Add 5% West of Denver) Light fixtures additional. Checks, C.O.D., Money Orders, MasterCard or Visa. Michigan Residents add 4% Sales Tax. FREE BROCHURE - DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED. Phone (313) 422-2420



A FLORACART

ENTER YOUR PLANTS

IN THE 1988 AVSA CONVENTION

We have given 31 FloraCarts to past winners at the AVSA Conventions.

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CAPE COD VIOLETRY



Latest releases from FREDETTE, GRANGER GARDENS, LYON, SUSAN'S VIOLETS, JEANNETTE'S JESNERIADS and much more. WE CARRY ALL THE SPECIES AND THE ORIGINAL 10. Also striped blossom varieties including CAPE COD CRISSCROSS, RASPBERRY SHERBERT, PARISIENNE and KIWI DAZZLE. Catalog \$1.00 refundable with order. Overseas catalog \$2. Gifts, Cards, Notes, Paper Goods and Jewelry available.

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

3"-3 1/2"-4" round tubs have rolled rims

SIZE	COLOR	TYPE	10	25	50	100	500
1-1/4"	Wt. (only)	Thumb Pot	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.30	\$ 4.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 34.65
2-1/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.80	1.50	2.75	5.00	22.00
2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.90	1.65	3.00	5.50	27.00
3"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.00	2.30	4.00	7.50	34.65
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.15	2.75	5.10	9.50	43.45
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.45	3.20	6.00	11.25	49.50
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.00	4.70	6.70	13.00	61.60
5"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.25	4.95	9.50	17.30	78.50
6"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.85	12.65	23.10	106.70
6-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.20	7.20	13.85	25.40	110.00

VIOLET POT WITH DETACHABLE SAUCER-ROLLED RIM

3-3/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.60	12.50	22.50	103.65
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PLASTIC HEAVY DUTY POT SAUCERS

3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	1.15	2.75	5.10	9.50
4"	Gr. or Wt.	1.90	4.40	7.60	14.00
5"	Gr. or Wt.	2.20	4.90	9.25	17.30
6"	Gr. or Wt.	3.00	7.20	13.20	24.20

PLASTIC WICK WATER RESERVOIRS

(recessed snap-on-lids) 16 oz (wicks not included) 32 oz	2.75	6.50	12.00	21.90	98.90
	4.25	10.00	19.35	36.00	147.95

PLASTIC LABELS

3" Lavender, White, Red, Orange, Yellow	100	500	1000
Blue, Pink, Green	1.00	4.40	6.25
4" Lavender, White, Green, Pink, Blue	1.25	5.50	8.80
5" Lavender, White	1.50	6.60	11.00
4 1/2" Heavy Vertical Stakes - White only	2.00	8.80	15.40

PLASTIC HANGING PLANTERS

4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	3" Deep	1	5	10	25	50
5-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	3-1/8" Deep	.75	3.50	6.50	15.00	28.00
6"	Gr. or Wt.	4-1/4" Deep	.90	4.30	8.10	19.00	36.00
8"	Gr. or Wt.	5" Deep	1.10	5.25	10.00	24.00	46.00
10"	Gr. or Wt.	6-1/4" Deep	1.50	7.25	14.00	33.75	65.00

PERMANEST TRAYS - Light Green - No Holes

4" x 8" x 2-1/2"	.69	3.90	7.20
8" x 8" x 2-1/2"	1.19	6.90	13.20
8" x 12" x 2-1/2"	1.35	7.50	13.80
22" x 11" x 2-3/4"	3.75	21.90	42.00
13" x 15" x 3-1/2"	3.99	23.00	45.00

PLASTIC TRAYS - No Holes

25-1/2" x 13-1/2" x 3-3/16"	Gr. or Wt.	3.25	17.00	31.90	60.50
Elisa's African Violet Rings					
Mini (6") Gr. only	.90	4.75	8.50	16.25	29.00
9" Gr. only	1.00	5.00	9.00	17.50	33.50
13" Gr. only	1.25	6.50	11.50	19.75	36.50

FREDETTE'S ALLEGRO Plant Tonic

Excellent for starting leaves and small plants.

Use 3 tsp. per gal. water. 4 oz. bottle - \$2.75 each;

3 for \$7.50; 6 for \$13.50; 12 for \$25.00.

1 gal. (for large growers) \$34.00 each.

PH METER - \$18.00

PLASTIC TERRARIUM

12" Diameter - \$6.50 each

White - Brown - Beige - Terra-cotta

SWIFT'S "MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

White - Green - Black

\$3.50 each - 6/16.60 - 12/29.50 - 24/52.00

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS:

Supplies - UPS \$3.00

Supplies - Parcel Post \$5.00

All other Countries - Actual Cost

Mass. residents include 5% Sales Tax

Please include STREET or ROAD, Zip Code & Phone #

Prices subject to change without notice.

PETER'S WATER SOLUBLE FERTILIZERS

Formula	Type	Size/Price
12-36-14	African Violet Special	4 oz. 12 oz.
5-50-17	Variegated Special	1.20 \$2.75
15-16-17	Peat-Lite Special	1.20 3.00
20-20-20	General Purpose	4 oz. 2.50
15-30-15	House Plant Special	1.20 2.50
Dolomite Limestone		2 lbs./\$1.25
Charcoal	No. 4 Coarse	20 oz. 40 oz.
	No. 6 Medium	1.50 2.75
Vermiculite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts.
Perlite	Coarse	1.50 4.00
Long Fibered Sphagnum Moss	TROY Capillary watering mat — a full 4 feet wide	8 qts./\$2.50
	\$2.25 per running yard — whole yard lengths	

BATEMAN'S BOUNTY 6-2-2

8 oz. - \$2.99

16 oz. - \$5.25

STURDY

4 oz. - \$2.99

8 oz. - \$5.25

PLANT DINNER

8 oz. BOUNTY,

4 oz. STURDY +

Mixer Dispenser Bottle

\$6.35

TRUSTY 6-8-6

6 oz. - \$2.99

16 oz. - \$6.35

OYAMA PLANTERS

Green, Brown

or White

4" - \$1.49 each

5" - \$1.99 each

6" - \$2.99 each

SUPERTHRIVE

1/2 oz. - \$1.59

1 oz. - \$2.39

2 oz. - \$3.39

4 oz. - \$5.39

ORTHENONE

75% Soluble Powder

1 lb. - \$13.50

I LOVE AFRICAN VIOLETS

BUMPER STICKERS

\$1.00 each with order.

Without order please

include SASE



African Violets

by Cianna

2021 Michael Way
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(702) 647-3205

Fresh cut leaves, labeled, our choice, postpaid
12 for \$9.95 25 for \$14.95

SPRING SPECIAL:

10 starter plants (mini, semimini & trailer) \$20 ppd.
or

10 starter plants (mini, semimini & trailer) plus
1 standard size CHIMERA starter \$24.50 ppd.
All labeled, our choice.

Frankly my dears, I do give a damn!

CRYSTAL VIOLETS

Deluxe assortment of 25 leaves - \$10 ppd.

Scarlett Presley

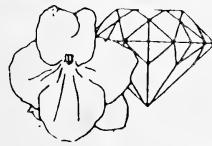
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AFRICAN VIOLETS

Newest Varieties — US/Canadian Hybridizers
Ship May 1 to November 1 — Weather Permitting
Prior Notification of Shipping Date

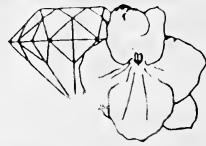
Leaves-Labeled-My Choice-PPD-NO LIST
12-\$4.95/25-\$7.95/50-\$13.95/100-\$22.95

ELIZABETH BUCK
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Clifford, MI 48727



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WHERE SUPERIOR "GEMS" ARE GROWN

BESIDES EXCITING NEW 1988 RELEASES OF THE LEADING HYBRIDIZERS,
THE FOLLOWING ARE A FEW OF OUR SPECIAL FAVORITES:

- Blackie Bryant - (Bryant) - Huge lavender doubles bordered with darker lavender and a white edge over variegated foliage. Show winner.
- Gladys - (Bryant) - White single to semidouble stars edged in green. Pink and green heart shaped variegated foliage. Excellent Bloomer.
- Wrangler's Cowboy Blues - (Smith) - Lovely blue doubles with cream variegated foliage. Show winner.
- Suncoast Spectacular - (Williams) - Hot pink camellia-like doubles with darker centers, quilted foliage. Super strong show plant.
- ACA Margaret Joan - (Brownlie) - Large rose doubles on dark quilted show foliage. Outstanding.

Nylon Wick 10 cents per foot postpaid Plants \$3.00 - Catalog for \$1.00 Refundable 1st order Leaves 75 cents/Champion \$1.00
Shipping Costs each \$3.50 up to 6 plants or 15 leaves - add 25 cents for each extra plant or 5 leaves
UPS Second Day Air add \$3.50 additional per plant No overseas shipping

SUPPLIES

OPTIMARA PRODUCTS

Potting Soil	8 qts.	\$1.99
Fertilizer - pre-measured 14-12-14	1.50 each / 4 for \$5.00	
Watermalds - beige or brown	\$1.50 each / 4 for \$5.00	

PETERS FERTILIZERS

12-36-14	8 oz.	\$2.00
15-30-15	8 oz.	\$2.00
20-20-20	8 oz.	\$2.00
15-16-17	4 oz.	\$1.25
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ALLEGRO	4 oz.	\$2.50

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17-3/4" x 12" x 2-3/8" deep	\$3.00
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6" rd pan - green	35¢	30¢

Round tubes with rolled lip

3" green	8¢	7¢
3-1/2" green	10¢	9¢
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9"	\$1.00	\$.80
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Snowy Gold	Drifter	Mr. Lange	Mandolin (Harris)	Whatta Gal
Supercharm	Fargo Outlaw	Lucky Lucille	Miss Lonely Heart (Baker)	Carla Rebecca (Rainwater)
Super Sweet	Gamblin' Fever	Flaming Glory	Sweet Water (Susan)	Dawn Michelle (Buchanan)
	Navajo Nation	Royal Tizzy	Sweet Dreams (Susan)	Rob's April Storm
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Blue Beacon	Round Up	Boone	Fantasy Splendor (GG)	Micky Mouse
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Gentle Wonder	Texas Blue	Purplette	Donna Stidman	
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Order from this list or send large self addressed and stamped envelope for complete descriptive list of additional plants and leaves from my last years plants at \$9.00 per doz.

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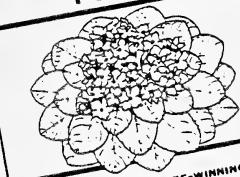
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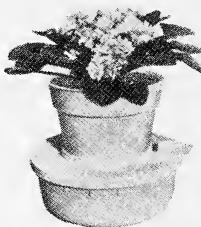
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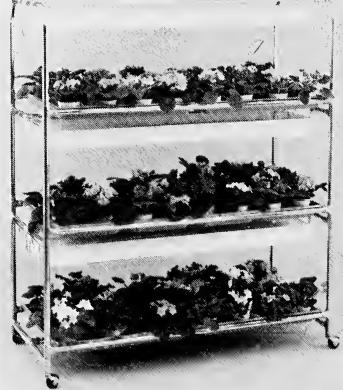
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Bienvenue: Warm light pink two-tone pansy shaped ruffled semidouble.

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Passion's Reward: Velvety two-tone purple semidouble ruffled pansy shaped with darker eye and edges.

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Also available: **All That Jazz, Aubergine, Designer Genes, Double Feature, French Country, Just Desserts, Kiss Of Fire, Lamour Du Jour, Lovelight, My Wicked Ways, Other Delights, Passion's Promise, Sleeper, Starcrossed and Young Man's Fancy.** (See Jan. ad for descriptions.)

Stellar Clouds, That's Italian and Voodoo Night from Spring 1987. Also some gesneriads, mostly fibrous rooted. To order from this ad, send \$3.75 per plant, shipping included. Minimum order: 5 plants, or send 50¢ for complete descriptive list. Shipping April 1 to November 1.

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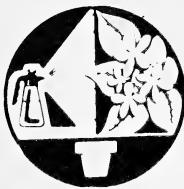
BALLET COOL MINT	CANDY KID	DAINTY DENISE
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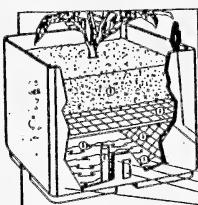
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25	6.25
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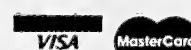
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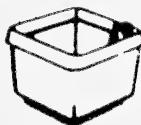
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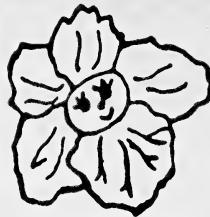
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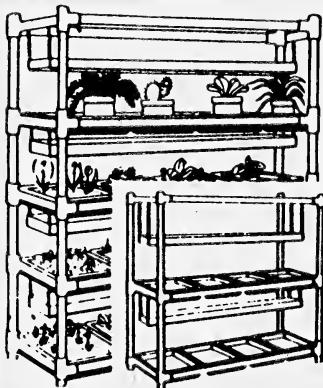
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New adjustable shelf 1-1/4" round tube Wonder Gardens. Start with the 2 shelf model B208 R (Lower Right). With the "Add On" Kit B104 (AO) you can make a B312 R stand. If more shelves are needed add the "Extra Shelf" Kit B104 R (ES) to make a B416 R stand (Upper Left). Also available with a fiberglass Flora Cart tray in C202 R, C303 R and C404 R Models.

FIXTURES EXTRA. ALL SHIPPED BY UPS.

Order #	SH.	H"	L"	D"	Trays - Size	Between Shelves	Aluminum
B208 R	2	49	51	23	8-22" x 12"	2 - 23"	\$ 95.00
B104 R (ES)	1	—	51	23	4-22" x 12"	Extra Shelf	40.00
B104 R (AO)	1	32	51	23	4-22" x 12"	Add On Shelf	56.00
B312 R	3	49	51	23	12-22" x 12"	3 - 15"	127.00
B416 R	4	81	51	23	16-22" x 12"	4 - 19"	175.00
C202 R	2	49	51	20	2-20" x 49"	2 - 22"	116.00
C101 R (ES)	1	—	51	20	1-20" x 49"	Extra Shelf	51.00
C101 R (AO)	1	32	51	20	1-20" x 49"	Add On Shelf	58.00
C303 R	3	49	51	20	3-20" x 49"	3 - 15"	159.00
C404 R	4	81	51	20	4-20" x 49"	4 - 18"	209.00
3 - H - R					Set of 4 - 3" wheels with inserts for 1-1/4" round tubing		15.00

Wonder Gardens also available in Furniture Style Square Tube models with "A" Aluminum and "B" Brown finishes.

BA-2 FLORA CART, 55"H with 2 - 20" x 49" fiberglass trays (less wheels) \$ 119.00

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40 watt (WS) Wide Spectrum Lamps 6 - \$22.00; 12 - \$40.87; 24 - \$75.46

We offer 8 new plantlites with wide spacing between the lamps. The plantlites are made of aluminum to spread the heat and operate 15/25 F. cooler than steel fixtures. The wide spacing gives better light distribution, permitting the fixtures to be located closer to the plants.

All plantlites are fully assembled, come complete with a 3 wire cord, a plug-in receptacle, an on/off switch, 4 - 24" chains for 1/4" adjustment and GRO-LUX (WS) LAMPS. All plantlites are 2" deep. 2 lamp models are 14" wide with lamps 10-1/2" apart. 3 & 4 lamp fixtures are 20" wide with lamps 7-1/2" and 5-1/2" apart.

Also available with deluxe (PLD) and electronic (PLE) ballasts. PLD models operate 20/30 F. cooler and use 10% less power, while PLE models operate 30/40 F. cooler and use 27% less power. Since the fixtures and lamps are cooler and have wide spacing on the lamps, they can be located closer to the plants and operated for shorter periods of time. The total savings are 10/33% with PLD models and 20/60% with PLE models.

PLR-42WS: \$ 55.00 (88 watts);

PLR-43WS: \$ 85.00 (143 watts);

PLR-44WS: \$ 89.00 (176 watts);

PLD-42WS: \$ 60.00 (79 watts);

PLD-43WS: \$ 99.00 (158 watts);

PLD-44WS: \$ 119.00 (196 watts);

PLE-42WS: \$ 84.00 (66 watts);

PLE-43WS: \$ 119.00 (99 watts);

PLE-44WS: \$ 127.00 (138 watts);

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NOW . . . INTRODUCING Our Table-Top Stand!!! Due to numerous requests we are now offering a 2-tray table-top stand or can be mounted on wall . . . great for limited spaces . . . measures only 31" high x 23" wide x 14" deep. Great to use for violets or other plants!!! Remember it's rustproof so it can be used inside or outside. Order yours today! \$25.00 {PS-0040-2} . . . (stand is not pictured)

All Stands are high quality, high durability, maintenance free, and inexpensive. Don't think you have to pay high prices to get high quality — you don't!

Model #	Without Fixtures	Stand + 3 Light Fixtures (One Per level)	Stand + 6 Light Fixtures (Two Per Level)
PS-0040-2	\$25.00	-----	-----
PS-0030-6	\$79.00	-----	-----
PS-0020-12	\$89.00	\$125.00 \$140.00 (Lights Unassembled) (Lights assembled)	\$165.00 \$195.00

PLASTIC TRAYS \$4.50 EA. Volkmann-green color (23" long x 12" wide x 2 1/2" deep) CASTORS \$20/SET - Ball castors in gold chrome color. (Not for PS-0040-2) PS-0040-2 - Holds two trays - one per level. Measures - 31" high x 23" wide x 14" deep. Can be used on table or mounted on wall. (Trays not included - sold separately) PS-0030-6 - Holds six trays - two per level. Measures - 70" high x 29" wide x 25" deep. Distance between levels is 22". (Trays not included with Stand - Sold Separately.) PS-0020-12 - Holds twelve trays - four per level. Measures - 70" high x 54" wide x 25" deep. Distance between levels is 22". (Trays not included with Stand - Sold Separately) LIGHT FIXTURES - 48" shop lights, rapid-start, need two 40 watt bulbs, distance between tubes 1". Light fixture height adjustable up to 12" above plants, (bulbs not included)

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PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch		Type	Number of Pots				
Size	Color		10	20	50	100	500
2	White	RS	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/4	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	1.15	1.80	4.00	6.50	29.00
3	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.35	2.30	5.00	9.00	42.50
3 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT,SQ	1.55	2.70	6.30	11.00	50.00
4	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.85	3.20	7.20	13.50	60.00
4 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	2.30	4.00	8.50	16.00	76.00
5	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	2.65	4.90	11.00	19.50	88.00
6	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	3.25	5.65	13.00	25.00	119.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT	3.80	6.40	14.75	27.50	127.50
7	Wh or Gr	RS	6.30	11.75	27.50	49.50	235.00
8	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	6.80	12.75	29.00	55.00	250.00

(COLORS: Wh=White, Gr=Green)

(TYPE: RS=Round Standard, height & width are same.

RT=Round Tub, height is 3/4 of width.

SQ=Square, volume about the same as RS.)

PLASTIC PAN POTS

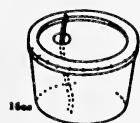
Very shallow, about half as deep as they are across the top, bottom holes only.

(Recommended in AVSM articles and convention presentations)

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	500
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.00	22.50	97.50
6	Wh or Gr	3.65	6.70	15.50	29.50	132.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	163.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	240.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	400.00

PLASTIC SAUCERS

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50
3	White	1.60	2.85	6.25
4	White	2.10	3.95	8.50
5	White	2.40	4.25	9.50



PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS

Volume	Height	20	50	100	500
8 oz.	1 3/4"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
16 oz.	3"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
32 oz.	3"	10.00	22.00	42.00	135.00

(wicks are not included)

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3" (100) \$1.25
4" (100) \$1.75

Granny's Bloomers (Liquid) Jungle Juice (Liquid)

Each — 2 oz. \$1.50
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Our free catalogue lists and describes several other items such as: Oyama (Texas style) Pots, Moistrites, leaf supports, pens, masks, gloves, meters, hanging baskets of all sizes, soil enriching materials, trays, books, and insecticides. The prices are low for your convenience. Your request for free catalogue will be answered by return mail.

**PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
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Ronn & Katsuko Nadeau of Nadeau Seed Company have authorized us to sell their products.

African Violet Seeds - a packet contains 100 seeds and illustrated instructions for the following:

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#2 = Little Gems mixed colors, miniatures;

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24 pages with 42 color photos \$2.95

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Potting Materials

*Please Note:

Due to the bulkiness of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we are able to ship only eight (8) gallons of any one or combination of these three items with each order.

*Violet House potting soil 1 gal. \$1.40

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Charcoal 12 oz. 1.40

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Fish Emulsion - liquid 10 oz. 1.75

Leaf Shine & Cleaner (pump sprayer) 8 fl. oz. 1.50

House Plant Insect Spray (pump) 10 fl. oz. 1.50

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FOR AN ADVENTURE IN THE MICROMINIS TRY THE NEW EXCITING OPTIMARA "LITTLE JEWELS" AT \$2.95 each... LITTLE AMETHYST, LITTLE APATITE, LITTLE DIAMOND, LITTLE ROSE QUARTZ, LITTLE SAPPHIRE, shipped in 1-1/4" terra cotta thumb pots with snap on saucer (please give second choice).

ORDER DIRECT FROM THIS AD OR SEND FOR 1988 COLOR CATALOG 50¢, listing Floracarts, books, pots and many other accessories.

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413
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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 41

Number 4

July • August 1988



Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

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AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$13.50, USA only. All other countries \$15.50. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$13.50; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check.

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Mr. John E. (Jack) Wilson, 6139 Willowick Lane, Springfield, VA 22152.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Mr. Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

AVSA EMBLEMS: Member, Past President, President, Life Member, Judge pins, charms, tie tacks. Own and wear them with pride. Order from AVSA office.

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BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contributions (club or individual) to Mrs. Marlene Brown, P. O. Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075.

BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Jan. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Anne Jantzen, 2725 Katrina Way, Mountain View, CA 94040 by Sept. 1.

PROGRAM: Jan. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Lee Ward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Lee Ward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

CULTURE FOLDERS: All folders are FREE for Recruiting New Members, shows, or sales (members are billed for postage).

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HANDBOOK FOR AFRICAN VIOLET GROWERS, EXHIBITORS AND JUDGES: Send \$9.95 check, payable to AVSA, to AVSA Office. Price includes postage.

JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Mrs. James S. Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Until Sept. 1, 1988 order AVSA slide programs and packets from Bob L. Green, 997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 39255. List in July issue. After Sept. 1, 1988 orders are to be sent to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates and copy information write: Mrs. Meredith Hall, 922 East 14th Street, Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

ARTICLES by READERS, COLUMNISTS and COMING EVENTS: Send to Editor. See above for address.

DEADLINES - ARTICLES: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

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QUESTION BOX: Mrs. Nancy Hayes, 9 Cobblestone Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002.

MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 4 (1983) \$3.00 postpaid. A must for judges, exhibitors, serious growers. Describes all varieties registered to July, 1983 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from June, 1976 to July, 1983. Order from Beaumont office.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman. Back supplements (1984 to 1987) available from AVSA Office for \$1.50 each.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Janet T. Riemer, 392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534.

PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomatic Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

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VIOLET SEARCH: Send your name, address, name of plant and hybridizer of older varieties to: Judith Kingsbury, Rt. 1, Box 118, Clayton, WI 54404.



*The Official Publication of the
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of America, Inc.*

OFFICERS

MRS. FRED YOUNG, President
6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731
MRS. ARTHUR F. BOLAND, 1st Vice President
6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310
MR. A. CHARLES BOLLAR, 2nd Vice President
17055 Community St., Northridge, CA 91325
MRS. J. R. PITTMAN, 3rd Vice President
12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233
MRS. JANET T. RIEMER, Secretary
392 Penn-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534
MRS. JOHN HAYES, Treasurer
9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK TINARI
2325 Valley Rd., Huntington Valley, PA 19006

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Allen Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704
MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009
NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704
BOB GREEN, Publications Chairman
997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955
COLUMNISTS
David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Ellie Bogin, Margaret Waggespack, Norita Hallum, Betty Tapping, Hugh Mackey, Marie Burns, Bill Foster, Nancy Hayes, Nancy Lawrence, Linda Neumann, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson and Lyndall Owens
BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER
Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Rte. 1, Prescott, WI 54021
TALLY TIME COMPILER
Mrs. John Chase (Mary) Reed, 17124 NE 29th Place, Bellevue, WA 98008
PUBLISHER: Publishing Today, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

The May issue of the African Violet Magazine had already gone to press when the 42nd annual AVSA Convention opened in Dallas. This issue contains the convention reports and awards. As a resident of Texas, I was proud to have the opportunity of sharing in the hostessing of our AVSA friends and in extending the friendliness and hospitality of the Lone Star State.

One of the pleasures of attending the Convention in Dallas is that months later we are still reminiscing about old friendships renewed and new friends made. Thank you again, Dallas, for the beautiful show and pleasurable activities you arranged for us.

Your Board of Directors spent approximately thirty hours in sessions, planning for the future of our Society. The Minutes of these sessions will be published in the September magazine. I think you will be pleased with the progress that was made.

Five new directors are added to the Board each year for a three-year term. This year we welcome Raymond Dooley of New York City; Rita Hilton of Bartow, Florida; Christine Ann Kemmerling of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin; Anna Jean Landgren of Evanston, Illinois; and Lynn Lombard of San Dimas, California.

As stated in the May issue of the AVM, our foremost and ever present objective is to increase the membership. Our Membership and Promotion Chairman, Jack Wilson, has enlarged his committee and they are planning an intense campaign for recruiting new members. A special committee consisting of the chairmen of the Affiliate, Membership and Promotion and Publication committees was appointed to update our booklet, "A Guide for Affiliate Presidents and AVSA Representatives." You will be hearing more about this and the rebate to affiliates for new memberships at a later date.

You will be glad to know that the Board of Directors voted to add a 16-page pullout supplement in three of the African Violet Magazines during the calendar year. These pullouts will tentatively contain the MVL Supplement, lists of Affiliates, Judges and Commercials and convention information. Our Editor will have additional pages for printing more articles on culture, which you have requested.

Nell-Sue Tyson, Building Fund Chairman, reported that, through the generosity of individuals, affiliates and commercials, the goal of \$20,000 has been reached. In addition, a \$10,000 check, matching 1 for 2, pledged by Lizeta Hamilton has been deposited in the Building Fund account. Your support through continued donations will be needed to purchase a home of our own. The next goal was set for \$60,000.

We are fortunate in having a very efficient Staff managing the Society's affairs in the Beaumont office. Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, tells me they are up to date, and are happy to comply with requests from the membership for information, orders for supplies,

AVSA jewelry, etc. If you are traveling in Texas this summer, make it a point to stop by the Office to meet Nancy, Patsy, and Trisha. Jane, AVM Editor, will be there too and you will find Texas hospitality extends from Dallas to Beaumont, and all points in between. Many of you had the opportunity of meeting Nancy and Jane in Dallas at the AVSA Information and Sales booth.

May I wish for each of you a pleasant summer. I hope your vacation travels will take you by some of our Commercial greenhouses. Be sure to write or call ahead about your arrival date.

Happy growing to all,

Frances Young

Newline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

We have two important announcements (GOOD NEWS) that we think will please all of our members.

MORE GROWING INFORMATION IN THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE

We have a solution to the complaint that too much space is taken in the magazine for Society Business. Now, all six of your magazines will have more growing information.

At the Dallas Convention, your AVSA Board of Directors voted to divide the Society Business, such as the Master Variety List, the Commercial list, the Affiliate list, the Judge's list and Convention Information into three supplements to be inserted into three different magazines; and, the good news is the supplements will be additional pages; so, they will not take up valuable space for growing information. We sincerely hope that this improvement will make all of our members happy.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE '88/'89

We know that our affiliate and commercial members are responsible for the majority of new members we receive. We sincerely appreciate the time you have devoted to this cause in the past, and we hope that all of you will take advantage of the FREE Culture Folder policy (explained below), double your efforts to recruit new members, and help us to make this year the most successful MEMBERSHIP DRIVE in our history.

FREE CULTURE FOLDERS - REBATES FOR ALL AFFILIATE AND COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

ALL AVSA Culture Folders will now be free with members paying only the postage or shipping costs.

ALL of the folders will now have a BLANK SPACE on the front for Affiliates and Commercial members to stamp or write their name so that they will be CREDITED for each new member they bring to AVSA.

REBATE POLICY

1. Commercial and Affiliate members can order up to 5,000 free culture folders per year.
2. Clubs or Commercials must bring in SIX new members per year, before they receive a rebate. After six memberships are received, the club or commercial will receive one dollar for each of the six members and one dollar for each additional member.
3. The name and address of the club or commercial must be stamped or written on the front of the culture folder, in the blank space provided so that you will receive credit for the membership.

4. Please have new members fill out the application on the inside cover of the culture folder. If they should fill out some other application (from the magazine or the white application blanks we furnish) have them attach the front panel of the culture folder with your name and address on it.

Our staff will watch carefully for applications with your name on them.

Good Luck!

In closing I would like to commend Bill Foster, Dallas Convention Chairman, Mary Ann Corrigan, Co-Chairman, Martha Turner, Show Chairman, Paula Foster, Co-Chairman, and all of the Texas Affiliate members who gave us a special convention. It was a great show and hospitality ran rampant, as I knew it would.



Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

Well, well, well, was that a terrific convention in Dallas, or what? Everything from the beautiful hotel accommodations at the Hyatt Regency to the magnificent showroom was first class all the way and all of the Texans who had a part in it should be very proud — tired, but proud.

Nancy Lawrence and I just couldn't have kept up with obligations and running the AVSA Information Booth without the help of Mary Ann Corrigan and Sue Ramser and friends, who would be there whenever they were needed. Even Sandy Sanders of Shirley's African Violets in San Antonio, left his commercial booth to help us out when we were in a real pinch.

Nancy Hayes and Penny Brenner virtually kept me from a complete nervous breakdown when the photographs for the AVM covers were being taken, and I was scheduled to be on the dais at the same time! Such professionalism should be recognized and I am very grateful to be associated with such an amazingly dedicated group.

THE BIG NEWS ...

The biggest and best news, as far as I am personally concerned, that came out of the convention, was that beginning this fall, we will have three 16-page supplements included in the magazine. The supplements will include: the Master Variety List Supplement, the lists of Judges, Commercial Members and Affiliated Clubs and the convention information. This is the best thing that has happened to the African Violet Magazine since color was introduced. We can now have our cake AND eat it, too. I salute the AVSA Officers and Board of Directors for finalizing this decision and make a plea to all of you to start writing articles — we now will have the space for more growing information, something we have all been waiting for.

The convention was a lot of fun and a lot of hard work, but my favorite part was meeting the people. It was great meeting young Darryl Hoover of Arizona, with whom I had been corresponding for several years. It was his first convention and I think he savored every minute of it. Upon arrival from Dallas, there was a note from him, telling what a grand time he had. Making new friends is just about as good as seeing old ones.

Enough about the convention — but I am looking forward to getting the Royal Treatment when we all meet in Kansas City, Missouri in May of 1989. Start making plans now.

A thank you ...

The Lynnhaven African Violet Club of Virginia Beach, VA has sent a thank you note to the magazine for printing their notice about the back issues they had for sale. Apparently, they had a good response and sold their magazines.

Looking for plants ...

If anyone has plants of 'Yellow Brown Girl,' 'Yellow Brown Boy,' or 'Yellow Breakthrough,' please contact Emilie Savage, 39 Mead Dr., Chilli-cothe, OH 45601. These plants are needed for university experiments.

More magazines ...

Martha C. Garvin, 3766 Pickertown Rd., Chalfont, PA 18914 would like to hear from anyone who is interested in African Violet Magazines from June 1976 through March 1986. She dislikes the idea of throwing them away and is offering them to anyone who is interested. She also has quite a few copies of Plants Alive, GSN, the Gloxinian and House Plants and Porch Gardens.

Another thank you ...

A new Commercial Member, Judy Yentzen of Gulf Coast African Violet Supply in Kountze, TX

has volunteered to lend her expertise to the violets we grow here in the office. The running of this office and putting out the magazine take a great deal of time and the entire staff truly welcomes her coming in and tending to the sometimes neglected plants. She spent an entire day here working on them and will be returning to follow up. Thank you, Judy.

In conclusion ...

Please put your thinking caps on and send me articles that we will now have space for. Remember, any artwork or photographs that can accompany a story just add to its interest. I am going to work on another writing contest and see if we can entice all of you frustrated writers out there. I'll try and have more information on this in the September magazine.

NOTICE: From Carol's Violets

Dear Violet Friends,

As of April 30, my violet business will be moved to: 2943 No. 109th St., Toledo, OH 43611, phone, 419-726-0648.

I will be concentrating on hybridizing and will no longer be mail-ordering. I will fill the orders already received. Anyone wanting my hybrids after the cut-off date can obtain them at the above address or at the shows.

Thanks to all for your continued support. I feel that I can now do justice to my violets because I will have more time to devote to producing better hybrids.

Carol Sotkiewicz
Carol's Violets

Library To Change

Until September 1, 1988 order AVSA slide programs and packets from Bob L. Green, 997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955. List in July issue.

After September 1, 1988 orders are to be sent to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704.

If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write to L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City, LA 70380.

IN MEMORY

Elizabeth Spidle Beatrice May

The AVS of Beaumont, TX has been saddened in the past few months with the death of two of its members, Elizabeth Spidle and Beatrice May.

Elizabeth was an avid gardener, working with the Beaumont Council of Garden Clubs for many years. She was a past school teacher and long-time member of the Beaumont AVS.

Beatrice was a new member to the Beaumont club, having worked with the clubs in Odessa and Harlingen. She was an interior decorator, owning her own business for many years.

Both members will be missed by the Beaumont AVS. Beatrice May was the mother of Lyndall Owens, columnist for the Affiliate 'appenings in the African Violet Magazine.

Edward St. Aubin

A long-time member and past president of the Bay State African Violet Society of Massachusetts, Edward St. Aubin, died in November, 1987. Ed was also an active judge and past president of the Bay State Judges Council.

The Merrimack Valley AVS of Lawrence, MA, where Ed was the heart and soul of the club, dedicated the 1988 show, "Violets in Technicolor," to his memory. A difficult year was concluded with a successful show.

Ed's friendly attitude, hard work and dedication will be missed by all and not forgotten.

—Marcia Balonis

AVSA Booster Fund

Mrs. Linda A. Neumann

*11620 Mapleridge Drive
North Royalton, OH 44133-2904*

Help get the Booster Fund cooking with a sizzling summer donation.

San Fernando Valley AVS, CA	\$ 5.00
in memory of Gene Rapp
AVS of Pensacola, FL \$ 10.00
Granada Hills AVS, CA	
in honor of Carolyn Taylor 5.00
Metropolitan AVS, IL 10.00

AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

*David Buttram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051
(816) 461-6086 or 373-4679*



Midland Violets

White Bear Lake, Minnesota — the name sounds so cool and refreshing, but there I was dripping with perspiration from the heat and humid air. To a midwesterner, those extremely uncomfortable conditions usually portend stormy, often violent weather — but, first things first.

I was in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area on business and telephoned African violet's "new kids on the block" for a visit and possible interview for this column. The home of Don and Jean Ness of suburban White Bear Lake was my destination. I had seen some of the beautiful Ness hybrids at the AVSA convention in St. Paul and knew they were regular advertisers in the AVM.

I drove out to White Bear Lake and met Don Ness in a parking lot from which I would follow him home. Don works as a shipping manager and took the afternoon off to host me. After a short trip (I am glad I had someone to follow), we arrived at the lovely Ness home and I was introduced to Jean, Don's wife and business partner.

While I refer to Don and Jean as "the new kids on the block," that is only in a commercial sense. Don started growing African violets about 30 years ago when his mother gave him some plants. According to Don, "She gave me other plants too, but African violets seemed to be in bloom all the time. That seemed to be the way to go. It was a hobby."

About 10 years later he began making crosses to see what varieties he could get. Don was fascinated with his new cultivars — yet none of those early seedlings were named. With the exciting new plants Don had produced, he was hooked: "From then it [hybridizing] just blossomed. (Pun intended? I don't know.) I bought a few plants at a show for hybridizing. I threw away most of my seedlings, but as time

went on, I had more success. After a while I began throwing out some of the good ones. Heck, what are you going to do with them?"

After careful selection, Don has released about 30 varieties. About five years ago, he began taking his plants to shows and marking them "Seedlings" and people would say, "You've got to name these things." Don knew that his plants were special and



Don and Jean Ness of Midland Violets with two new seedlings.

"... people wanted them because of the beautiful flowers, but didn't want to grow them if they weren't going to be named. So, we started naming them."

At the AVSA convention in Dallas last April, Don and Jean won all blue ribbons on their Display Table — their first. One seedling won a special award having been considered by the judges as possible Best New Introduction.

"Not too bad considering how far we drove (over 1,000 miles). We had some broken flower stalks, but they came through pretty well."

Jean added, "We stopped in El Dorado, Kansas, to spend the night. The temperature was to go down to 32° and we were afraid to take a chance after traveling so far. We unloaded them and loaded them the next morning."

With their three children grown and married and retirement only two years away, the Nesses plan to devote more time to their hybridizing and sales. They also want to attend more conventions to exhibit, sell, and meet new friends.

Don starts his seeds and leaves in vermiculite. Baby plants from both are then transplanted to a mix that is used up to and including show plants. The mix

is a recipe formulated for the Texas-style potting method as published in *Growing To Show* by Pauline Bartholomew (Copyright 1985).

Texas-Style Potting Mix

5 quarts dry peat moss (fluffed)

4 quarts #2 perlite

3 quarts vermiculite

1 cup charcoal (optional)

1 tablespoon superphosphate (0-20-0)

dolomite (enough to raise the pH of mix to between 6.5 to 6.7)

The Nesses report great success with this recipe for plants of all ages and sizes.

For any insects which may slip in the basement growing area, Jean sprays regularly with Raid and I-Bomb. Both are convenient aerosols. Jean doesn't believe in using "... anything highly toxic — after all this is our home."

All plants are grown under lights and Don prefers Gro Lux WS (Wide Spectrum) although he does use some cool white tubes. The lighted benches have just about crowded out the basement, so the Nesses have tentative plans to build onto their home so Don can have more room for hybridizing, which will



Cups full of tiny seedlings which will soon be transplanted.



Every inch in the plant room at Midland Violets is taken by the new plants of promise.

surely increase, when he retires.

What began as a hobby for Don some 30 years ago, eventually "rubbed off" on Jean and she loves club work as well as the sales end of the partnership. Jean admits her reluctance to get involved: "Don kept trying to get me to help him. Finally I started one day by picking off spent blossoms, including several seed pods. He didn't think that was too funny, but I did."

Happy and with a ready laugh, Jean is a delight to be around. Don is likewise friendly and has a sense of humor, so I am sure his misgivings were short-lived.

Time to move on — as I did have a plane to catch. A tour of the growing rooms in the basement was in order. With everything so orderly and clean I can see why insects are not a problem. The benches and storage areas were immaculate. I must admit to a little envy. Don took obvious pride in showing me his cultivars and Jean was equally proud of the plants and Don.

Could I leave without leaves? No way. Quickly Don and Jean had me prepared to introduce the Ness hybrids to my part of the world.

By the time I left White Bear Lake the atmosphere was oppressive and upon arrival at the airport a giant black bank of clouds was approaching menacingly from the southwest. My plane was delayed about two hours while the storm passed through the area. I found out later that night that several small tornadoes had been spawned from that storm.

After meeting and talking with the Nesses about African violets, I am thankful for the continually

growing list of special persons — African violet growers.

Next Month: Now we will travel down the yellow brick road through amber waves of grain.

COMING EVENTS

JULY 23 & 24 COLORADO — Gloxinia, Gesneriad Growers show/sale, "In The Good Old Summertime," Denver Botanic Gardens, John C. Mitchell Hall, 1005 York St., Denver. July 23, 1 - 4:30 p.m.; July 24, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For information call Bonita Hutcheson, 781-2406.

AUGUST 25 & 26 MINNESOTA — AVS of Minnesota's 17th annual State Fair violet show, "Violets For All Occasions," Minnesota State Fairgrounds, Snelling & Como avenues, St. Paul. Both days, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Faye Drewianka, show chairman; Palma Trapp, co-chairman.

AUGUST 26 - 28 CALIFORNIA — San Francisco County Fair Flower Show, San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS' show/sale, "African Violets and Treasures of the Sea," Chicago Botanic Garden, Lake Cook Rd. off Edens Expressway, Glencoe. Sept. 10, noon - 5 p.m.; Sept. 11, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, parking is \$2.00. Barbara Goodsell, show chairman.

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11 TENNESSEE — Nashville AVC's show/sale in conjunction with Tennessee Gesneriad Society's show/sale, Cheekwood Botanical Gardens, Forrest Park Dr., Nashville. Non-members invited to enter. Open to public. Sept. 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sept. 11, noon - 5 p.m. For information: Porter Temple, 6221 Temple Rd., Franklin, TN 37064, 615-646-1922.

SEPTEMBER 24 MARYLAND — Baltimore AVC's Judges School, Loch Raven Baptist Church (8600 Loch Raven Blvd., Towson), Mary Boland, teacher. Lecture - 9 a.m.; test following a brown bag lunch. Fee for both lecture and test is \$5.00. For more information contact Sharon Toolan, 2008 Wildlife Dr., Baltimore 21207 (301-298-6493) or Janet Haag, 524 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212 (301-377-5085).

SEPTEMBER 24 & 25 ILLINOIS — AVS of Northern Illinois' mini show/sale, Chicago Botanic Garden, Lake-Cook Rd., East of Edens Expressway, Glencoe.

SEPTEMBER 24 & 25 CALIFORNIA — East Bay AVS of Oakland's show/sale, "Violets by the Lake," Lakeside Garden Center, Lake Merritt Park, Oakland. Sept. 24, 2 - 6 p.m.; Sept. 25, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. For information: 689-6909.

OCTOBER 1 & 2 MICHIGAN — North Oakland AVC's display/sale, Bordine's Better Blooms greenhouses, 1985 S. Rochester Rd. (2 miles north of M-59), Rochester. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OCTOBER 27 - 29 SOUTH AFRICA — Transvaal African Violet Society's show/sale, "Out of Africa-Violets," emphasis on species. For more information contact: Joan Halford, show chairman, Box 760, PYRAMID, 0120 Transvaal, Republic of South Africa.

OCTOBER 29 & 30 FLORIDA — AV Council of Florida's show/sale, "Violet Treasures," Winter Haven Mall. Liz Farmsworth and Carol Schreck, co-chairmen. For information call 813-646-4895 or 813-533-7288.

Honor Roll of African Violets

Irene Fiedler
Route 1
Prescott, WI 54021



To be on the Honor Roll of African Violets, a variety must have appeared on the Best Varieties List for five consecutive years.

1977

Garnet Elf #2339 (Granger)
Like Wow #2329 (Lyon)
Mary D #2675 (Maas)
Miriam Steel #2276 (Granger)

1978

Ballet Lisa #2898 (Geo. J. Ball Inc.)
Cordelia #2466 (Lyon)
Granger's Pink Swan #2577 (Granger)
Pocono Mountain (DeSandis)
Richter's Step Up #2458 (Richter)
Starshine #2349 (Granger)
Whirlaway #2210 (Lyon)
Wisteria #2056 (Tinari)

1979

Ballet Marta #2899 (Geo. J. Ball Inc.)
Blue Storm #2464 (Lyon)
Christmas Holly (Reed)
Double Black Cherry #1178 (Anderson)
Dora Baker #2084 (Vern Lorenzen)
Duet (Richter)
Granger's Musetta #2575 (Granger)
Granger's Serenity #2578 (Granger)
Granger's Swiss Ballet #2579 (Granger)
Like Wow Sport (Lyon)
Rhapsodie Mars (Holtkamp)
Spring Deb #2348 (Granger)
Vern's Delight #2271 (Vern Lorenzen)

1980

Becky #2669 (Maas)
Coral Caper #2727 (Lyon)
Corpus Christi #3075 (Utz)
Crimson Frost #2706 (Granger)
Edith Peterson #2561 (Constantinov)
Gotcha #2205 (Lyon)
Granger's Eternal Snow #2573 (Granger)
Granger's Regina #2716 (Granger)

Lavender Tempest #2709 (Granger)

Midget Bon Bon #2280 (Champion)

Mrs. Greg #2361 (Vern Lorenzen)

Pink Viceroy #2714 (Granger)

Pixie Blue #2598 (Lyon)

Sailor's Dream #3108 (Kolb Greenhouse)

Tina #2680 (Maas)

The King #2698 (Maas)

The Parson's Wife #2317 (Rev. Blades)

1981

Faith #2707 (Granger)

Flamingo #2670 (Maas)

Helene #2885 (Lyon)

Jason #3004 (Maas)

Mark #3007 (Maas)

Orion #2069 (R. Anderson)

Ruffled Red #2679 (Maas)

Sweet Mary #2489 (Vern Lorenzen)

Tommie Lou #1744 (Oden)

1982

Alouette #2787 (Fredette)

Amazing Grace #3688 (Soulitz)

Ballet Anna #2890 (Geo. J. Ball Inc.)

Firebird #2818 (Granger)

French Lilac #2844 (Swift)

Gr. Starburst #2874 (Granger)

Gr. Sylvan Blue #2875 (Granger)

Joyful #3168 (Lyon)

Little Delight #3169 (Lyon)

Little Jim #3005 (Maas)

Millie Blair #3020 (Granger)

Pink 'N Ink #3173 (Lyon)

Sam (Lyon)

Winter Grape #2789 (Fredette)

1983

Abigail Adams #3226 (Fredette)

Beginner's Luck #2803 (Pritchett)

Cat's Meow #3238 (Swift)
Celine #3188 (Maas)
Dardevil (Burton)
Dyn-O-Mite #3440 (Lyon)
Gr. Cameo Queen #3863 (Granger)
Gr. White Cockatoo #3417 (Granger)
Pixie Pink #2599 (Lyon)
Red Wow (Lyon)
Sunlit Sugar Plum #4599 (Scott)

1984

Betcha #3144 (Swift)
China Pink #3429 (Fredette)
Chris (Maas)
Colorado #3152 (Holtkamp)
Coral Radiance #3672 (Lyon)
Dear Ellie #3439 (Lyon)
Gr. Wonderland #3419 (Granger)
Ms. Pretty #5225 (Anderson)
Sammye Ballard #3563 (Granger)
Sanibel #3377 (Leary)
Silver Lining #3629 (Fredette)
Snowy Trail #3678 (Lyon)
Sparkle Plenty #2786 (Egenites)
Tiger #3433 (Fredette)
Wanderlust #3786 (Granger)
Verna Lynn (Fredette)

1985

Autumn Honey #4462 (Groeneman)
Black Ace #3541 (Nadeau)
Cherry Frosting #4333 (Fredette)
Disco Dazzler #3909 (Lyon)
Gr. Carnival #4298 (Gr. Gardens)
Gr. Heart's Desire #3407 (Gr. Gardens)
Irish Angel #4054 (Annalee)
Kristi Marie #3914 (Lyon)
Polly Doodle #4339 (Fredette)
Rhap. Barbara n/r (Holtkamp)
Something Special #3668 (Nadeau)
Splish Splash n/r (Lyon)
Spring Fling #3553 (Nadeau)
Sundown #3598 (Utz)
Swamp Fever #4046 (Sisk)

1986

Chris Leppard #4636 (Maas)
Dominique #4345 (Fredette)
Fisher's Leone #4540 (E. Fisher)
Lady Baltimore #4337 (Fredette)
Love Bug #4513 (Lyon)
Marie Knoblock #4042 (Sisk)
Nevada n/r (Holtkamp)

New Mexico n/r (Holtkamp)

Snuggles #5018 (Lyon)

Spanish Moss #4045 (Sisk)

1987

Fisherman's Paradise #4843 (Sisk)
Gr. Desert Dawn #4050 (Eyerdom)
Hawaii n/r (Holtkamp)
Happy Cricket #5726 (Hollada)
Interlude #4935 (Gr. Gardens)
Ms. Pretty #5225 (Anderson)
Winngreen #4693 (Pittman)



Pictured are the winners of the Delaware AVS show, "25th Anniversary Celebration," Mrs. Robert Pyle, holding best in show, Proud Country, and Mrs. Roger Waugh, holding Shooting Star, part of the 2nd best AVSA collection.

Attention Affiliates!

The AVSA Library is for you.

Look for Rules & Regulations,
Descriptions of Slide Programs,
and interesting Packets, in this
issue.



Musings from the “Mini-Mam”

Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin

Chairman, Miniature and Semiminiature Cultivars

39 Boyd Street

Long Beach, NY 11561

The winners of the spring shows will be listed in the fall. I don't know how many of the new ones will be winning top awards, but many of the plants that have come out this year should place at the top. Each year the quantity and coloration of the blooms and leaves seems to improve.

The following have proven very successful for me:

‘Mary Lynn’ (Rae) a heavy blooming double purple geneva on pointed semimini leaves. My geneva edge has been kind of light, but the plant is very pretty. ‘Little Treasure’ (Sorano) is a semi with a pretty blue and white double. ‘U-Haul Trail’ (Murphy) heavy blooming tiny mini with adorable blue bells. ‘Muffet’ (Pittman) is a mini with huge white doubles that don't brown on tiny tailored foliage. ‘Rob’s Midnight Madness’ (Robinson) double blue geneva mini on tailored foliage. ‘Rob’s Blue Light’ (Robinson) - one of my favorites - is a heavy blooming light blue semidouble on very light variegated semi foliage. A really pretty shade of blue. ‘Rob’s Sticky Wicket’ (Robinson) is one of the best mini trailers, with good compact foliage and heaving blooming rose-pink singles that stay on. ‘Lady Bug’ (Haywood) has a different pale pink semidouble ruffled bloom on ‘Tommie Lou’ pink variegated semi foliage. ‘Merrilee’ (Haywood) is a mini with good size heavy blooming raspberry doubles on variegated foliage.

If you have problems with variegated leaves sending up almost albino plantlets that rot away, try feeding them with a high nitrogen fertilizer. They will green up and produce healthier plantlets. When they are sturdy and ready to be separated, you can go back to your regular fertilizer. The variegation will return in the center of the plantlets.

Variegation on many plants turns green during the hot summer months, but with the advent of cooler nights in the fall, the variegation will start showing again. If it is slow in coming and you have

fall shows, you can water with a teaspoon of dolomite lime to a gallon of water, for a week or two or until you see variegation. Keeping the plants on the lowest shelf of your tray or on a cool windowsill will also help.

I have found that no matter what fertilizer is used, if the plants are kept cooler, they get more variegation and the beautiful pink, white and tan will emerge.

My lights are turned down to 12 hours during the hot months and I let the trays dry out. Too much humidity can cause rot. I keep up the feeding schedule so that I do not end up with a row of short leaves between the old and new growth.

Don't crowd your plants and have plenty of circulating air (fans or air-conditioning) and keep your trays absolutely clean. Make sure you cut off all spent blooms and stems so they do not fall on and rot on the leaves. If you have no qualms about sprays, keep up a weekly spray program. Open windows bring in a lot of unwanted visitors. I use Malathion and Kelthane, making sure I wear a mask and that my arms and hands are covered.

I know that I keep preaching this over and over, but during the summer, if you work in your outside garden and then go directly to your violets, you will be courting trouble. Make sure you wash your hands thoroughly and change your clothes before you go near the violets. You would be surprised at what your clothes can pick up.

With my bad fingers I've had the problem of wearing gloves; but I have found out that I can use small disposable surgical gloves that will push down enough on my fingers to be worn even when potting. For the first time in years, I am not walking around with soil and fertilizer stained fingers.

The 1987-1988 supplement will be available from the Beaumont office in November. Just send a stamped self-addressed envelope. Enjoy the summer.



Beginner's Forum

Norita Hallum
310 Lori Lane
Brownwood, TX 76801

Miniature Landscapes In Glass

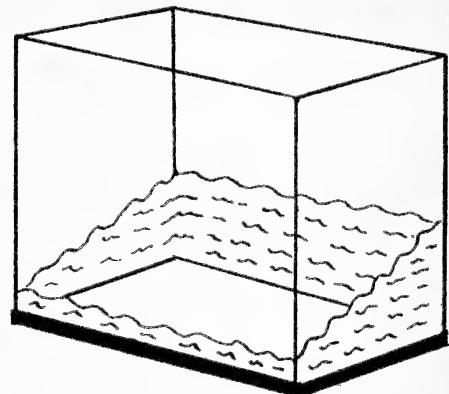
Have you ever looked out across the countryside and just felt overwhelmed because it was such a beautiful sight? Instantly you thought, I wish I could capture that beauty by painting a picture on canvas. You may not be an artist, but you can capture some of the beauty of nature by creating a miniature landscape in glass — a terrarium.

If you are planting a terrarium to enter in a show, be sure to read your schedule and know what it says. Whether I am creating a terrarium to enter in a show or just for my own enjoyment, I start with a plan. I usually draw a sketch of how I want it to look. It is a very simple sketch showing the high and low areas, the planting areas and where the open spaces will be.

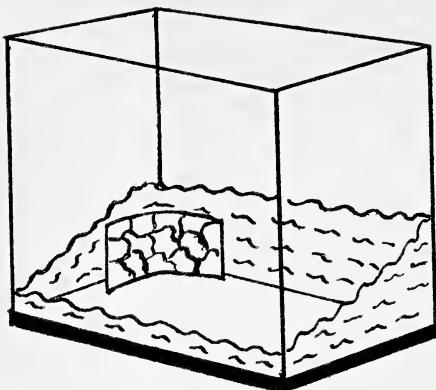
First, select a container. It should be of clear glass or plastic. A large bubble bowl or a fish aquarium are the most popular and easiest to plant. They need to have a cover. A piece of glass can be cut to fit over the opening or a piece of plastic kitchen wrap can be stretched across the top and the edges neatly trimmed.

Clean your container so that it is spotless. Use a window cleaner for the final cleaning. If you are using a container that has been planted before and discover some water deposit buildup, use Lime-Away to clean the glass (read label for reaction to some materials). Other solutions to clean glass are ammonia and water, vinegar and water and Spray 'n Wash. I prefer glass containers because they are easier to clean and do not scratch like plastic.

When your container is sparkling clean, it is ready to plant. Prepare your soil. African violet soil with some perlite added is a good medium for terrariums. The soil should be slightly damp, but not soggy. I line around the edges of the container with sheet moss, placing the moss next to the glass.



The moss is easier to position if you will dip it in water and then squeeze it out. I also spray the moss with a fungicide. Spread a thin layer of gravel on the bottom of the terrarium and then sprinkle a thin layer of horticulture charcoal. Next add the soil. Using your landscape plan as a guide, start moving your soil around to create hills and valleys. This is one of the most important things to remember. Plantings on different levels are more interesting than one flat surface. Sometimes it is hard to keep your soil in place when you mound it up high. Rocks or pieces of wood placed in front of the soil will hold it in place. One of the things I like to do is glue small bark chips to a thin pliable piece of plastic, using a glue gun. Then I poke little pieces of moss in, over and around some of the chips. This makes it look more natural and not stiff. I place this in the terrarium in a curve across one of the back corners and fill behind it with soil. This forms a retaining wall for the soil and gives me another planting level.

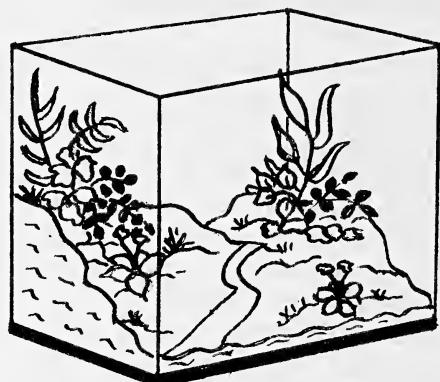


Select your plants with care, using ones that are suitable for a miniature landscape and are compatible—some of which could be miniature ivies, baby tears and creeping fig for ground cover; peperomias, ferns and small episcias for the smaller shrubs and tiny palms, aralias and some varieties of fern for the trees. The selection of plants will depend on the availability in your area. Remember terrariums require plants that prefer high humidity, moist soil, constant temperature and low light intensity. Plants should vary in height, shape, color and texture. Use only clean, healthy plants.

Before planting, arrange plants in nursery pots in groups to find the most pleasing design. Remove the plants from the pots and shake off the excess soil. Prepare a hole in the soil by using a spoon, stick or your finger. Place the plant in the prepared hole and gently press the soil around the plant. If you plan to add an African violet at a later date, sink the same size pot into the soil where you will later place the violet. Terrariums entered in a show should have one or more blooming African violet plants. If, during the planting, you find a different plant grouping is more effective than the original one, feel free to change it. Don't be bound by your original plan; use it only as a guideline. Fold the moss lining over the edge of the planting and tuck under plants where necessary. Terrariums should not appear to be freshly planted if entering in a show.

Now is the time to add interest. Take a cue from nature and decorate with understatement. At this point a beautiful terrarium can be ruined by adding too many things. I very seldom add ceramic objects. I prefer the simplicity of design. Some of the things

I add are interesting rocks, polished stones, small pieces of weathered wood and small twigs covered with lichen or moss. Limit yourself to adding only one or two things so your planting will not become too busy. I like to cover the soil with different kinds of moss so the landscape will have a finished look. A trail winding through the landscape can be created with small pebbles or tiny gravel.



The most important consideration in the care of a terrarium is watering. Water adds sufficient moisture for normal plant growth and establishes the humidity and rain cycle. Since the planting mix was moist, add a small amount of water to the base of each plant with a bulb baster. If excessive moisture forms on the glass, open the container until it dissipates; then close it. This can be repeated each day until the excessive moisture has been eliminated. Observe your terrarium closely and if there is a lack of any moisture forming on the glass for several days, check to see if more water is needed. Once the water balance in a terrarium is achieved, it should not require additional water for several months. Overwatering is the major cause of terrarium failure.

Correct lighting is also essential to maintaining a container garden. Place your terrarium under lights or where there is enough light to sustain good plant growth. Do not place in direct sunlight as it is magnified as it passes through the glass and will scorch the plants.

Keep the plants groomed by picking off discolored or dead leaves and blossoms. Prune the plants to keep them within the desired limits of the terrarium. If a plant becomes too large and cannot be

pruned properly, remove it and replace it with a new, healthy plant. Remove any specks of dust or perlite that become visible.

Now that your task at hand is completed, you too have become an artist using your tools as brushes,

the plants as your media and the container as your canvas. The beauty you have created will reward you with many hours of enjoyment and will remind you to pause and be thankful for all the joy and fulfillment that started with a small African violet.

Boyce Edens Research Fund

*Marlene Brown
P. O. Box 38
Oreland, PA 19075*

*It's sticky and hot
And you care not ...
Change your lot!
Make BERF your plot
Pen in hand just jot
A check for a lot!
Now wasn't that EASY?
GEE — Thanks a Lot!*

Donations received from January 25, 1988 through March 25, 1988

Paumanok AVS, Northport, NY	\$10.00
T.H.E. AVS, Birmingham, AL	
in memory of Mrs. Mary Frank	32.00
Green Thumb AVC, Fayetteville, AR	10.00
Eleanor Wood, Havertown, PA	
in memory of Kathryn Waltz	10.00
Lynnhaven AVS, Virginia Beach, VA	
club donations for 1987 & 1988	20.00
Foothill AVS, Southern CA	
in memory of our charter member, Barry Gadd	25.00
Saintpaulia Society, St. Louis, MO	10.00
Violets & Friends AVC, Piqua, OH	5.00
AVS of No. Illinois Inc., Norridge, IL	10.00
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Gulf Coast AVS, Dunedin, FL	
in memory of Delight Bennett	62.00
Metropolitan AVS, Peoria, IL	
Tempe AV Culture Club, AZ	
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Seattle AVS, WA	
donation from a club-hosted cake auction to benefit BERF	25.00
Mid-Polk AVS, Winter Haven, FL	
in memory of Theresa Cacciato	10.00

Three Supplements In Future AVMs

The AVSA Officers and Board of Directors approved the insertion of three pull-out supplements per year in the African Violet Magazine. The supplements will include: the Master Variety List Supplement, the lists of Judges, Commercial Members and Affiliated Clubs, and convention information. These will be in addition to the 72-page magazine.

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



AVS OF CHARLOTTE, NC - "Violets on Parade," Elizabeth Ashley, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Bee Jay, Splendiferous, Ballet Marta, best in show, Bee Jay, best design, "Terrarium," sweepstakes, Elizabeth Ashley; 2nd best AVSA collection, Pink Cameo, Fantasy Forty, Mikado Red, 2nd best in show, Mikado Red, Lorene Pickett; best trailer, Blooms Away, Mildred Sehorn; best semi, Honey Jay, best gesneriad, Columnea Mary Ann, Eva Harp.

AVS OF SPRINGFIELD, PA - "All Aboard For The Violet Express," Bettie Roth, chairman. Winners: best in show, S. Tongwensis, 2nd best in show, Mindi Brooke, Barbara Jones; best design, "Narrow Gauge," Jane Belancio; best trailer, Blustery Trail, best miniature, Blustery Trail, best semi, Precious Pink, best gesneriad, Smithiantha Castecroft, sweepstakes, Betty Girvin.

NEW YORK CITY AVS - "A Violet Safari," Stanley Furman, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Harbor Blue, Boca Grande, Pink Energy, best in show, Honeysuckle Rose, 2nd best in show, Harbor Blue, best trailer, Honeysuckle Rose, best semi, Rob's April Storm, sweepstakes (81 blue ribbons), Edward Bradford; 2nd best AVSA collection, Jimmy Carter, Splendiferous, Galactic Star, Mark Grigalunas; best design, "Wealth of a Continent," Raymond Dooley; best miniature, Mickey Mouse, Cynthia Collins, best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Holiday Hybrid seedling, Isabelle Gronert.

ASSOCIATION DES AMATEURS DE VIOLETTES AFRICANES DE MONTREAL, CANADA - "Le Festival De La Violette Africaine," Denis Croteau & Therese Decelles, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Missy, Spots 'n Dots, Happy Cricket, best in show, Intrigue, 2nd best in show, L' Ambassadeur, best miniature, Merry May, sweepstakes, Therese Decelles; 2nd best AVSA collection, Little Katherine, ACA's Merry Mary, Snuggles, Yvon Decelles; best design, "L'Orient," Marcelle Lefebvre; best gesneriad, Chirita Sinensis, Rolland Chevrefils.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AV COUNCIL, CO - "Violets Ole," Jennie Laney, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Angel Lace, Magic Blue, Beginner's Luck, Greta Young; 2nd best AVSA collection, Coralette, Nortex's Petticoat Haven, Tootsie, 2nd best in show, Chris, best design, "Spring Fiesta," Judie Lalanne; best in show, Everdina, best trailer, Trail Along, best miniature, Everdina, Nellie Levine; best semi, Precious Pink, Betty Margetts, best gesneriad, Nematanthus Bambino, Eric Erickson; sweepstakes, Frances Ratte.

NIAGARA FRONTIER AVS, NY - "Violets In Renaissance," Connie & Susan Andrzejczyk, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Honey Bee, Wrangler's El Diablo, Peek-A-Boo, best in show, Honey Bee, 2nd best in show, Wrangler's El Diablo, best miniature, Rob's Soliloquy, best semi, Rob's Wicked Fickle, best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Toronto, sweepstakes (59 blue ribbons), James H. Smith; best design,

"Shakespeare, Himself," Connie Andrzejczyk; best trailer, Jet Trail, Grace Shuman.

AVS OF LOWER BUCKS COUNTY, PA - "Violets 'R' Us," Mrs. Joyce McMullen, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Amazing Grace, Peach Jubilee, Lady Baltimore, 2nd best in show, Lady Baltimore, best trailer, Fancy Trail, best miniature, Toy Castle, best semi, Beginner's Luck, sweepstakes, Bill Lyons; best design, "Let's Pretend," Mrs. Marion Allen; best in show, Wrangler's Jealous Heart, Lee Allen; best gesneriad, E. Checkerboard, Mrs. Maryrose Smith.

TWIN CITIES AVS, IL - "Along Violet Lane," Donna Willett, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Snuggles, Dreams and Wishes, Party Lace, 2nd best in show, Snuggles, best trailer, Pixie Blue, best miniature, Timid Teen, Martha Compton; 2nd best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, New Mexico, Washington, best in show, New Mexico, Jean Brooks; best in design, "Beneath Sheltering Trees," Paul Reynolds; best gesneriad, Pink Cupid, Eloise Cline.

RENO-SPARKS AVS, NV - "A Rainbow of Violets," Cheryl G. Young, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Optimara Arkansas, Optimara Ontario, Ms. Pretty Pink, best in show, Ms. Pretty Pink, best design, "African Dream," best miniature, My Black Rose, best semi, Dear Doris, best Blue Boy, Carol Mark; 2nd best AVSA collection, Starstreak, Ms. Pretty, Roundabout, Cheryl Young; best trailer, Mini Trail, Sandy Edward; best gesneriad was Episcia Pink Brocade.

BREW CITY VIOLETEERS, WI - "Heavenly Rays of Violets," Irene P. Merrell, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Chris Kemmerling, Granger's Wonderland, Satin Sassy, best in show, Chris Kemmerling, 2nd best in show, Granger's Wonderland, best semi, Fair Belle, best gesneriad, Koelikeria Erinoides Red Satin, Karter Wilkening; 2nd best AVSA collection, Little Katherine, Snuggles, Summer Song, best design (tie), "A Galaxy of Violets," best miniature, Missie Miss, Chris Kemmerling; best design (tie), "Starlight, Starbright," Teri Torbeck; sweepstakes, Sue and John George.

PAUMANOK AVS, NY - "Violets Go For The Gold," Esther Lowenthal, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Harbor Blue, Jean, Paumanok, best in show, Paumanok, Jane Weber; 2nd best AVSA collection, Chinese Porcelain, Nanuka, Michaela, best semi, Magic Blue, Susan Heidt; 2nd best in show, Bud's Melanie, Melanie Weber; best in design, sweepstakes, Gloria Rutmayer; best trailer, Lora Lou, Martha Spyridon; best miniature, Rob's Soliloquy, Bud Weber; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Orion, Esther Lowenthal.

CENTRAL JERSEY AVS, NJ - "Violets in the News," Cecilia Winfield, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Irish Angel, Snuggles, Honey Joy, best in show, Snuggles, 2nd best in show, Strawberry Lace, best design, "Travel and Leisure," best miniature, ACA's Sakura, best semi, Snuggles, best gesneriad, X Daltriantha Golden Bea, sweepstakes, Nancy

Imhof; 2nd best AVSA collection, Amigo, Prelude, Sundown, Dale Jasaitis; best trailer, Trail Along, Pat Melone.

VENTURA COUNTY AVS, CA - "Feast Your Eyes on Violets," Florence Naylor, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Granger's Wonderland, Mary D, Something Special, best in show, Granger's Wonderland, Sherry Plisky; 2nd best AVSA collection, Ballet Marta, Ms. Pretty, Pink Philly, Beulah O'Neal; 2nd best in show, Rosebud Trail, best trailer, Rosebud Trail, Ann Wang; best design, "Jungle Stew," Robert Seaton; best miniature, Dawn Michelle, sweepstakes, Catherine Myers; best semi, Magic Blue, Floyd Lawson; best gesneriad, E. Cleopatra, Jean Shipley.

NORTH STAR AV COUNCIL, MN - "Spring Magic," Lorraine Nelson, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Emilie Savage, Twilight Glo, sweepstakes, Retha Johnson; 2nd best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, Opt. Rhode Island, Ness's Hey Jude, Ruth Bann; best in show, Granger's Desert Dawn, 2nd best in show, Nortex's Snowkist Haven; best design, "Alice in Wonderland"; best trailer, Jet Trail; best miniature, Wee Dreamer; best semi, Dolled Up; best gesneriad, Episcia Silver Sheen.

CENTRAL FLORIDA AVS - "African Violets in Poetry," Catherine Boxberger, show chairman. Winners: best in show, Wrangler's Gunslinger, 2nd best in show, Flashy Lovetta, best AVSA collection, Wonderland, Snow Rose, Autumn Honey, best in design, "Children's Hour," Peggy Noles; best miniature, Baby Tears, Phyllis Dyhr; 2nd best in design, "Lady of Shalot," best standard with semidouble, Pink Lady, Lois Sprayberry; best standard single blossom, Liz Ann, Evelyn Briggs; best novice, Ms. Pretty, Donna Smaltz.

ILLINOIS AVS - "Our African Violet Heritage," Terry E. Duchien, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Georgia Lover, Sheer Heaven, Snow Rose, best in show, Disco Doll, 2nd best in show, Georgia Lover, sweepstakes, Jean Willey; 2nd best AVSA collection, Joyful, Beginner's Luck, Snuggles, best miniature, Mini Minx, Ruby Ernst; best design, "Our Future Heritage," Linda Symmonds; best trailer, Blue Star Lou, Sandy Svb; best semi, Dolled Up, Evalyn Barborik; best gesneriad, E. Karlyn, Libby Watkins.

VIOLETS AFTER FIVE, LA - "Violets in Storybook Land," Sallie L. Barlow, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Optimara Little Sapphire, Everdina, Paradise Baby, best semi, Gini, best gesneriad, S. Cindy, sweepstakes, Sallie L. Barlow; 2nd best AVSA collection, Nortex's Yuletide Haven, Something Special, Bertha, best in show, Something Special, 2nd best in show, Bisque Risque, best design, "Alice in Wonderland, Spring Time," best trailer, Pink Star Lou, Beverly Corona; best miniature, Fairy Tails, Louise Acosta. This club has only three members, having lost one the night before the show. They had 94 plants entered, as well as designs and an educational table.

CORPUS CHRISTI AVS, TX - "Once Upon A Time With Violets." Winners: queen of show, Splendiferous, 1st runnerup, Something Special, 3rd runnerup, China Pink, Glenda Ehrlich; princess, Dolled Up, Gulf breeze award, Lavender Elf, AVSA collection, Dolled Up, Autumn Lou, Paydirt, Virginia Thompson; Gussie Briggs award, Dumplin, sweepstakes, Kay Bircher; Sanderfer award, Marie Knoblock, Jeanette Kocurek.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AVS - "Violets in the Golden State," Walter Temple, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Disco Doll, Party Lace, Satin Doll, best in show, Mickey Mouse, 2nd best in show, Disco Doll, best miniature, Mickey Mouse, best semi, Cherry Hill, best gesneriad, Sinningia Freckles, sweepstakes, Laura Hardcastle; best design, Lee Skidmore; best trailer, Santa Fe Trail, Karen Willoughby.

AVS OF ALBANY & CAPITAL DISTRICT AVS, NY - "Violets in America's History," Doris Purzycki & Vincent Ozimek, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Rob's April Storm, Precious Pink, Snuggles, 2nd best in show (tie), ACA's Margaret Joan, best semi, Rob's April Storm, sweepstakes, Helen Gifford; 2nd best AVSA collection, Blue Boy, Dominique, Wonderland, best in show (over 12"), Blue Boy, best miniature, Little Rose Quartz, best gesneriad, Columnea Mortonii, George Rodenhausen; best in show (under 12"), Splendiferous, Joyce Dick; 2nd best in show (tie), Rh. Annie, Glen Phelps; best design, "Civil War," Florence Zabinski; best trailer, Fancy Trail, Josephine Ploski.

BALBOA PARK AVS, CA - "African Violets with a Japanese Flair," Gloria Barker & Rebecca Lawrence, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Ms. Pretty, Old Dominion Sparkler, Frances Young, 2nd best in show, Snow Rose, best miniature, Baby Bonnet, best semi, Topmost, sweepstakes, Rebecca Lawrence; best in show, Woodland Trail, best trailer, Woodland Trail, Leonard King; best design, "Mitsui," Virginia Myrick; best gesneriad, Nematanthus Wettsteinii, Gloria Barker.

MASTERS CITY AVS, GA - "Violets & Old Lace," Sharon Miles, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Magic Blue, Little Pro, Sweet One, Joan Wright; 2nd best AVSA collection, Wild Flame, Granger's Wonderland, Fantasy Midnight, best in

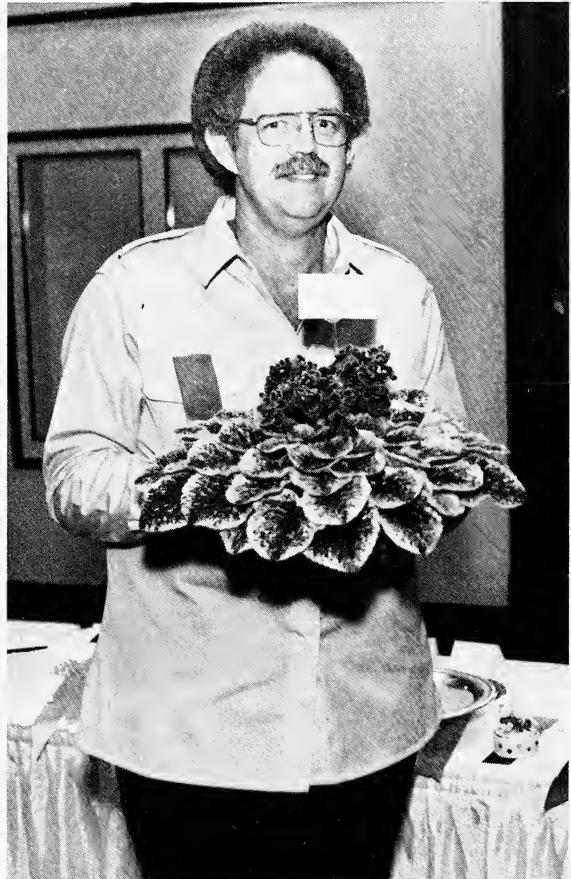


Peggy Noles, is shown with Wrangler's Gunslinger, winner of best in show at the Central Florida AVS show held in Orlando, FL. Theme for the show was "African Violets In Poetry." Peggy also won the AVSA Gold Award.

show, Granger's Wonderland, Angela Olson; 2nd best in show, Marshlands, Sharon Miles; best design, best trailer, Tiny Woodtrail, Mildred Whatley; best miniature, Midget Bon Bon, best gesneriad, Nautilocolyx Grandulilisil, sweepstakes, Jan Moon; best semi, Snuggles, JoAnn Cumpton.

DELAWARE AVS - "Silver Anniversary Celebration," Mrs. Betty Gregg, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, French Lilac, Proud Country, Fog Bound, best in show, Proud Country, 2nd best in show, Wee Mischief, best miniature, Wee Mischief, sweepstakes, Bessie Pyle; 2nd best AVSA collection, Grandma's Zack, Shooting Star, Tiger, Marie Waugh; best design, "Reflections," Dale Turner; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Marna, Angie Celano.

OLD DOMINION AVS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA - "Stately Violets," Mary A. Boland, chairman. Winners: best



Bobby Morgan of Top Choice AVS, Shreveport, LA is pictured with one of his winners from their recent show, "The Magical Splendor of Violets." Bobby won the AVSA Gold Rosette Collection Award with *Midnight Romance*, *Bonnie Leigh* and *Fisherman's Paradise*. *Midnight Romance* was also best in show. His French Lilac was second best in show and other winnings included: best design, best trailer, best miniature and sweepstakes.

AVSA collection, Mauna Loa, Granger's Desert Dawn, Cinders, best in show, Dogwood Trail, 2nd best in show, Magic, best design, "New York," best trailer, Dogwood Trail, best miniature, Alan's Baby Bonnet, best semi, Beginner's Luck, sweepstakes, Bev Promersberger; 2nd best AVSA collection, Proud Country, Bourbon Mist, Marshlands, Herschel Martindale; best gesneriad, Trichantha Poma Cub, David Turley.

CEN-TEX RAINBOW AV CLUB, TX - "Violet Trail to Dallas," Barbara P. Butler, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Beginner's Luck, Autumn Lou, Gini, best in show, Georgia Lover, best miniature, Lucky Lass, sweepstakes, Janice Davidson; 2nd best AVSA collection, Top Most, Little Pro, Snuggles, Neva Moten; 2nd best in show, Precious Pink, Joanne Rogers; best design, "Black Gold," best semi, Snuggles, Marilyn Secret; best trailer, Ballet Blue Berry Swirl, best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Susie, Sheri DeLoach.

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY AV CLUB, AL - "Violets Our Heritage," Eunice Hall, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Granger's Desert Dawn, Optimara Rocky Mountain, Granger's Wonderland, best in show, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, 2nd best in show, Wonderland, sweepstakes, Mrs. James Shirley; 2nd best AVSA collection, Optimara Alabama, Creole Royal, Kiwi Dazzler, best design, "Down By the Old Mill-stream," Mrs. Coyle L. Hall; best trailer, Trail, best gesneriad, Checkerboard, Laura Payne; best miniature, Little Katherine, Levoy Pate; best semi, Candy, Sylvia Pate.

UNION COUNTY CHAPTER AVS, NJ - "Take a Chance on Violets," Jim Fischer & Robert Hand, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Ballet Lisa, Ballet Marta, Desert Dawn, 2nd best AVSA collection, Mark, The King, Gail, best in show, Maas's Dorothy, 2nd best in show, Mark, best trailer, Sweetheart Trail, sweepstakes, Tony Randle; best design, "Strike It Rich," best gesneriad, Columnea Light Price, Jill Fischer; best miniature, Little Rose Quartz, Walther Ott; best semi, Snuggles, Penny Wezel.

BLUFF CITY AV CLUB, TN - "It's Reigning Violets," Dr. George McDonald, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Precious Pink, Rob's Megan Lynn, Little Pro, best in show, Nancy Hayes, 2nd best in show (tie), Wrangler's Snowfields, Precious Pink, best design, "Queen of Rivers," best trailer, Nancy Hayes, best semi, Precious Pink, sweepstakes, Mary Loewer; 2nd best AVSA collection, Magic Blue, Super Skirt, Snuggles, best miniature, Little Marsley, George McDonald; best gesneriad, Episcia Silver Skies, Mae Phillips.

COVINGTON AVS, AL - "Holidays With Violets," Myra Benton, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Elizabeth Fuller, Dixie Celebration, Poncha Train, best in show, Better Times, best gesneriad, E. Country, sweepstakes, Myra Benton; 2nd best AVSA collection, Double Black Cherry, Christmas Candy-O, Swamp Fever, Imogene Sorrells; 2nd best in show, Precious Pink, best semi, Precious Pink, best miniature, Snuggles, Grace Brogden, best design, "My Favorite Holiday," Beth Moseley.

RICHMOND AVS, VA - "Forty Years - Growing and Showing," Sharon Long, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Optimara Ontario, Tomoco, Pink Confession, best in show, Wee Dear, 2nd best in show, Sensational Sandra, best design, "Fantasy World of Violets," best miniature, Wee Dear, sweepstakes, Mrs. Alice Grundy; 2nd best AVSA collection, Pink Elegance, Painted Orchid, Gloria, best trailer, Pixie Blue, best semi, Rhapsodie Scarlet, Dave Hudson.

WINDSOR AVS, CT - "Dr. Seuss & Violets, Too," Nancy G. Hayes, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Granger's

Cherry Blossom, Nortex's Yuletide Haven, Ravishing Ruffles, best in show, Granger's Cherry Blossom, Betty Schenck; 2nd best in show, Her Dream, Judy Stock; best miniature arrangement, Nancy Hayes; best underwater design, best trailer, Teeny Bopper, best gesneriad, S. Mighty Mouse, sweepstakes, Cindy Fagan; best miniature, Paradise Baby, Jean Keefe; best semi, Dizzy Lizzy, Mary Meyer, best terrarium, Marcis Kilpatrick.

ALBUQUERQUE AV CLUB, NM - "Reflections," Clella Wiley, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Summer Butterfly, Corpus Christi, ACA's Eye Knees, 2nd best in show, ACA's Eye Knees, best design, "Sunrise Service," best miniature, Cupie Doll, best semi, Pay Dirt, Cal Iskra; 2nd best AVSA collection, Shur Sweet, Mary D. Wrangler's Jealous Heart, sweepstakes, best in show, Ballet Lisa, Kitty Smith; best trailer, Confetti Trail, Betty Tracy; best gesneriad, Chocolate Soldier, Thelma Langley; design sweepstakes, Clella Wiley.

VIOLETS ON THE BAYOU, LA - "An Easter Parade of Violets," Anaise LeBlanc, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Makin Romance, Marshland, Grandmother's Halo, best in show, Makin Romance, 2nd best in show, Marshland, sweepstakes, Phil & Pat Robichaux; 2nd best AVSA collection, Something Special, Columbia, Happy Cricket, best miniature, Little Jewel, best semi, Shutter Bug, Lilly Belle Arcement; best design, Interpretive Flower Arrangement, Anaise LeBlanc; best trailer, Tiny Wood Trail, Eva Folse; best gesneriad, Nematanthus Tropicana, Anna Naquin.

DELAWARE AVS - "25th Anniversary Celebration," Mrs. Betty Gregg & Mrs. Angeline Celano, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Fogbound, French Lilac, Proud Country, best in show, Proud Country, 2nd best in show, Wee Mischief, Mrs. Robert Pyle; 2nd best AVSA collection, Tiger, Grandma's Zach, Shooting Star, Mrs. Roger Waugh; 3rd best AVSA collection, Magnolia, Margaret Joan, Something Special, Mrs. Betty Gregg; best semi, Litta, sweepstakes (design), Mrs. Andrea Pirone; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Mama, Mrs. Angeline Celano; best design, Mrs. Dale Turner.

MEMPHIS AVS, TN - "Violet Circus," Ann Shirley, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Irish Angel, Denny Boo, Precious Pink, best in show, Precious Pink, best miniature, Toy Castle, best semi, Precious Pink, Katherine Steele; 2nd best AVSA collection, Val's Sweet Dream, Mauna Loa, Cotton Bowl, 2nd best in show, Fickle Flirt, best design, "It's a Big, Big Show," best trailer, Always Pink, Iona Pair; best gesneriad, Episcia Pink Brocade, sweepstakes, Ann Shirley.

AVS OF NORTH JERSEY, NJ - "A Hit Parade of Violets," Emilia Rykowski, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Something Special, White Wedgewood, Betcha, best in show, Dance Time, 2nd best in show, Something Special, Stephen Moran; 2nd best AVSA collection, Wrangler's Pink Patches, Coral Ice, Pink Blueberry, Barbara Howells; best design, best miniature, Little Rose Quartz, Emilia Rykowski; best trailer, Falling Snow, Antoinette Rogan; best semi, Snuggles, Frank Sennon; best gesneriad, E. Pink Brocade, Rosanne Robinowitz; sweepstakes, Jim Strout.

SWEETWATER AVS, NY - "I Remember Grandma's Violets," Eleanore Hull, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Little Joy, Dawn Michelle, Rob's Lilliputian, best in show, Paumanok, Jane Weber; 2nd best AVSA collection, Bud's Lite, Fantasy Sensation, Nortex's Yuletide Haven, Gloria Rutmayer; 2nd best in show, Molokai, Edwina Gross; best design, "The Back Porch," Kerry Dicker; best trailer, Foxwood Trail, best miniature, Little Sapphire, Bill Pauwe; best semi, Candy Phillips, Jane Hiltz; best gesneriad, Columnea California Gold, sweepstakes,

Eleanore Hull.

THE AVS & EARLY BIRD VIOLET CLUB, AL - "Violet Magic," Romona W. Hodges, Ann Breckenridge, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Rob's Blue Light, Little Katherine, Dizzy Lizzy, best miniature, Wee Hummer, best semi, Magic Blue, best gesneriad, Columnea Aladdins Lamp, Romona Hodges; 2nd best AVSA collection, Spanish Cavalier, Hello Sunshine, Painted Sunrise, best in show, Painted Sunrise, Jerri Whitlock; 2nd best in show, Purple Lace, sweepstakes, Elizabeth Hayes; best design, "April Magic," Sue Oztekin; best trailer, Snowy Trail, Debbie Driskill.

LONG ISLAND AVS, NY - "Violets Win An Oscar," Dolores O'Sullivan, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Precious Pink, ACA's Wackie Jackie, ACA's Lady Jane, best miniature, Alan's Valley Girl, best semi, Precious Pink, sweepstakes, Dolores O'Sullivan; 2nd best AVSA collection, French Lilac, Boca Grande, Anita, best in show, Southern Ivory, Frances Bemann; 2nd best in show, Ramblin Prince, best trailer, Ramblin Prince, Eileen Denison; best design, "Sayonara," Evelyn Hannon; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Hybrid, Mary Kitch.

HERITAGE AVS, NY - "Have Violets Will Travel," Gert Buckley, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Orchid Orbit, Desert Dawn, Splendiferous, best in show, Orchid Orbit, 2nd best in show, Spunky Trail, best design, best trailer, Spunky Trail, best miniature, Charlotte King, best semi, Snuggles, best gesneriad, Nematanthus Tropicana, sweepstakes, Anne Lee; 2nd best AVSA collection, Optimara South Dakota, Rhapsodie Roxanne, Optimara Nassau, Barbara Kostek.

COPPER CITY AVS, NY - "Communicating With Violets," Annabelle & Wilson Hart, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Santa Anita, Granger's Wonderland, Nanuka, best in show, Santa Anita, 2nd best in show, Aspen Pink, best trailer, Snow White Trail, best semi, Rob's Ink Storm, sweepstakes (52 blue ribbons), Annabelle & Wilson Hart; 2nd best AVSA collection, Nanuka, Tennessee, Lady Diane, best miniature, Roy Joy, John & Marion Mennig; best design, "Communicating with Texas," Marilyn Schaller; best gesneriad, Columnea (variety unknown), Julia Hughes.

SAN FERNANDO AVS, CA - "Violets on the Silver Screen," Susan Arnout, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Something Special, Swiftly Wish, The King, Cecilia Gonoud; 2nd best AVSA collection, Granger's Wonderland, Snow Rose, The King, best miniature, Petite Pat, June Strong; best in show, Blue Excitement, Bea Socher; best design, Marge Lillquist; best gesneriad, E. Toy Silver, Mary Hillman.

THE EVENING AV CLUB OF DES MOINES, IA - "Relax With Violets," Mrs. Wayne (Joan) Watts, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Top Most, Winnergreen, Pay Dirt, Marie Ilstrup; 2nd best AVSA collection, Wonderland, Something Special, Frances Young, best in show, Timid Teen, best semi, Timid Teen, Deb Oelmann; 2nd best in show, Snow Rose, best trailer, Tattle Trail, Monica Brill; best design, "Dark Sensation," Sine Oelsen; best miniature, Lil Snowdrift, best gesneriad, Ruffled Wood Nymph, Wayne Watts; sweepstakes, Marie Oelsen.

AVS OF FORT WALTON BEACH, FL - "Violets Play Rodgers & Hammerstein," Mildred Patrick, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Splendiferous, Happy Cricket, Chris Leppard, best in show, Splendiferous, 2nd best in show, Chris Leppard, best design, "Oklahoma," sweepstakes, Mildred Patrick; best miniature, Winky, best semi, Snuggles Delight, Ricki Oscarson.

GREENTHUMB AVS, AR - "Picture Perfect," Ruby Pope,

chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Wrangler's Snow Fields, Georgia Lover, Lavender Lace, best in show, Wr. Savage Beauty, 2nd best in show, Wr. Snow Fields, best design, "Wedding Memories," best miniature, Mickey Mouse, best semi, Little Katherine, best gesneriad, Pink Brocade, sweepstakes, Ruby Pope; 2nd best AVSA collection, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Eve, Wonderland, Beverly String; best trailer, Teenie Bopper, Tracey Williams.

MERRIMACK VALLEY AVS, MA - "Violets in Technicolor," Mrs. Kathy Ouellette, chairman. Winners: best in show, Wine Cooler, 2nd best in show, Masked Man, sweepstakes (horticulture), Connie Hamel; 2nd best AVSA collection, Ann Bruhmuller; best miniature, Merry Mary, Mary English; best design, Peggy Proposki; sweepstakes (design), Fran Baschnagel.

GA STATE AV COUNCIL & AV CLUB OF GREATER ATLANTA - "Violets Are International," Jeanette Wallace & Laura Walker, cochairmen. Winners: best AVSA collection, Optimara Maui, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Granger's Wonderland, best in show, Optimara Maui, 2nd best in show, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, sweepstakes, Jeanette C. Wallace; 2nd best AVSA collection, Majestic, Snow Rose, Fisherman's Paradise, best gesneriad, Columnea Early Bird, Neal Brewer; best design, "Visit Africa," Laura Walker; best trailer, Dancin' Trail, Lois Duvall; best miniature, Everdina, Theresa Norris; best semi, Precious Pink, Bill Barnette.

SUNDOWNER AVS, LA - "Violets 'Seven Come Eleven' Years," Sophie Cole, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Something Special, Magnolia, Lela Marie, best in show, Lela Marie, 2nd best in show, Something Special, sweepstakes (51 blue ribbons), Phyllis Harris; 2nd best AVSA collection, Columbia, Greg, Bertha, Sophie Cole; best design, "Dice," best trailer, Wee Bells, Anita Dantoni; best miniature, Dawn Michelle, Margie McClure; best semi, Honey Jay, best gesneriad, Nem. Wettatunnic, Kathy Oufnac.

MOBY DICK AV CLUB, MA - "Adrift With Violets," John M. Cook, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, The King, Tiger, 2nd best in show, Snow Rose, best trailer, Tracey Trail, sweepstakes (19 blue ribbons), Margery Cunningham; best in show, Optimara Alabama, Borghill Dyson; best design, best gesneriad, E. Cleopatra, best miniature, Little Amethyst, Ruth Warren; best semi, Snuggles, Beverly Sweet.

AVS OF WIREGRASS, AL - "School Days for Violets," Gloria Powell, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Hug-a-Lug, Precious Pink, Little Jim, best in show, Snow Rose, best design, "Walden Pond," best miniature, Optimara Little Rose Quartz, best semi, Prince William, best gesneriad, Episcia Lenion, sweepstakes, Vince Vincent; 2nd best AVSA collection, Frances Young, Sir Charles, Granger's Wonderland, 2nd best in show, Sir Charles, Christy Thomley; best trailer, Pip Squeek, Gloria Powell.

MERRIMACK VALLEY AVS, MA - "Violets in Technicolor," Kathy Ouellette, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Grandma's Zack, Masked Man, Country Lilacs, best in show, Wine Cooler, 2nd best in show, Masked Man, sweepstakes, Connie Hamel; 2nd best AVSA collection, Optimara Trinidad, Nancy Reagan, Grandma's Zack, best trailer, Pixie Blue, Ann Bruhmuller; best design, "The Sound of Music," Peggy Proposki; best miniature, ACA's Merry Mary, Mary English; best gesneriad, S. Heyday, Dick Blustein.

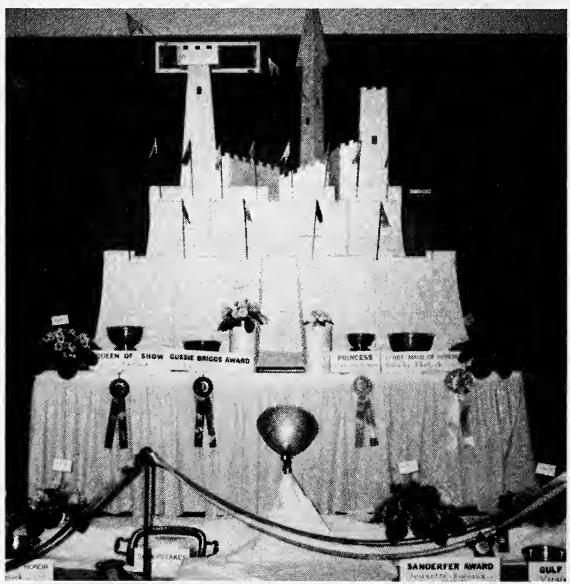
COLUMBUS AVS, OH - "A Symphony of Violets," Betty Schulz, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Little Princess, Care Deeply, Sweet Pixie, 2nd best in show, Amazing Grace, best miniature, Ping Pong, sweepstakes, Betty Schulz;

2nd best AVSA collection, Mary Craig, Old Dominion Glory, Call Me Friend, best in show, Mary Craig, best semi, Precious Pink, Mary Martin; best design, "Woodland Sketches," Frances Lane; best trailer, Pixie Blue, Evelyn Grinstead; best gesneriad, Columnea Early Bird, Emilie Savage.

CAPITAL CITY AVS, CA - "A Violet Holiday," Jim Carpenter, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Amazing Grace, Jealous Heart, Gaudy Lady, 2nd best in show, Jealous Heart, Della Carpenter; 2nd best AVSA collection, Swift Thriller, French Lilac, Crystallaire, best in show, Swift Thriller, best design, "You Are Nearer To God's Heart In A Garden," best trailer, Confetti Trail, best miniature, Tiny Gypsy, Ruby Roloff; best semi, Teen Craze, Oscar Faoro; best gesneriad, E. Helo O, June Fallaw.

THIMBLE ISLAND AVS, CT - "Carousel of Violets," Mario Mauro, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Cherry Cola, Something Special, N. Snowkist Haven, best in show, Cherry Cola, 2nd best in show, Splendiferous, best miniature, Esther Hopper, best semi, Very Cherry, sweepstakes, Barbara Lemere; best design, "Around We Go," Cecile Lambert; best trailer, Blooms Away, Madeline Clem; best gesneriad, Columnea Campus Gem, Marge Fargeot.

JEFFERSON AVS, LA - "Violet Majesty," Donna N. Rasch, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Cie, Juicy, Java, Al & Genelle Armstrong; 2nd best AVSA collection, Mark, The King, French Lilac, Diana S. Seifert; best in show, Precious Pink, best semi, Precious Pink, best gesneriad, E. Cleopatra, Margorie Blake; 2nd best in show, That's Italian, Audrey Voorhees; best design, "Royalty in the South Pacific," best trailer, Pioneer Trail, Dot Benge; best miniature, Spritely, Douglas Ehrensing.



Pictured above is the award table for the Corpus Christi (TX) AVS show, "Once Upon A Time With Violets." The castle was constructed by the club members to highlight their winning plants. Best of show was Splendiferous, and 2nd best in show, Something Special, both entered by Glenda Ehrlich.

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210

We Did It! WE DID IT!

The initial goal of \$20,000, to be reached by the Dallas convention, has been achieved! Indeed, we did do it — with the concentrated effort of many devoted AVSA members.

It has been a thrill to see the many new ideas which have developed as we went along. There were contributions of anonymous donors, income from sale of handmade articles created over a long period of time, sale of unwanted Christmas gifts, use of coupons through a grocery chain, money paid for speaker's fees, show awards, fair awards, travel expenses for judging of shows, sales of donated plants, monthly payments from a senior citizen - in honor of someone for a job well done, and two authors have generously offered copies of their books for donations to the Building Fund of \$20.00 or more. Many donations have been given as memorials. These are most appropriate, for they are a lasting tribute that will always be a reminder of a loved one. However, most contributions have been in honor of AVSA, especially the generous initial contributions.

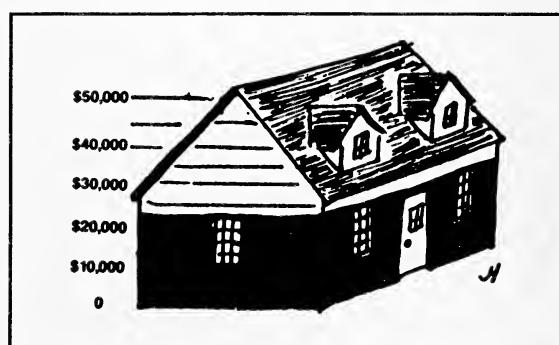
These are some of the sources of our foundation. To me, they mean so much for all have been given as from the heart, with no pressure. This building will truly be OUR building and not partially made possible from outside sources.

Now, our real job begins. A good start has been made. With the help of everyone, we can accomplish the next phase.

February, 1988

(contributions received from January 25 through February 25)
Green Thumb AVS, AR \$10.00
Central Jersey AVS, NJ
 in memory of Eleanor Barnes 10.00
Violets After Five AVS, LA 10.00
Stanislaus County AVS, CA 20.00
North Star AVC, MN 25.00
Ventura County AVS, CA 100.00

Diablo Valley AV Growers, CA	25.00
Don L. Thomburg, CA	10.00
New York City AVS, Inc. in memory of Ann Dooley, honorary life member of NYC AVS	25.00
New York City AVS, Inc. in memory of Walter Hunt, past president	25.00
Edward Bradford, NY in memory of Ann Dooley, Walter Hunt and Sam Rolph, Jr.	75.00
Mrs. Marceline Koester, NY in memory of Ann Dooley	10.00
Capital City AVS, CA	100.00
The Raymond J. Dooley Family, NY in memory of Walter Hunt	25.00
Suburban AV Friends, CA	25.00
N. Ruth Steele, TX in memory of granddaughter, Sutton Howard	200.00
Richard W. Hill, TX	50.00
Harry Matsukane, CA	25.00
Tustana AVS, CA for sale of unwanted Christmas gifts at a silent auction	50.00
Late Bloomers Violet Club, IL	15.00
AVS of Brownwood, TX	25.00
The Unpredictable AVC, MO	25.00
Fox Valley AVC, WI	25.00
Mrs. Catherine Hunt, NJ in memory of Ann Dooley	50.00
Mrs. Anne Tinari, PA in lieu of speaker's fee for lecture and slide program to Cheltenham Business and Professional Women's Assn	75.00
Mrs. Virginia B. Cicero, NY in memory of Mrs. Ann Dooley	5.00
AVS of South Bay, CA	



in honor of AVS of San Francisco, celebrating their 35th anniversary	25.00
Helen (Jamie) Christensen, MI	
in lieu of speaker's fee to garden club	20.00
For the month of February, 1988, affiliates qualifying and requesting the offer by AV Enterprises Press of Pauline Bartholomew's book, "Growing To Show" are: Bellflower AVS, CA; First Austin AVS, TX; AVS of Greater Kansas City, MO and Metropolitan Regional Council of AV Judges, NY	
<i>March, 1988</i>	
Donations received from February 25 - March 25	
A contribution by The Chimneyville AV Club of Jackson, MS in September 1987, should have shown "honoring Mrs. Tommie Lou Oden and Miss Jane Wicht, in lieu of judge's fees." Sorry for the omission.	
Balboa Park AVS, CA	\$100.00
Metropolitan Regional Council of AV Judges, NY	
raffle of book, Growing To Show	20.00
Granada Hills AVS, CA	
in memory of Carolyn Taylor	118.00
The Fort Worth AVS, TX	
in lieu of speaker's fee to Velma Lewis	20.00
AVS of Philadelphia	
in lieu of speaker's fee to Bill Lyons	10.00
A contribution by AVS of Philadelphia in December 1987 should have shown: (self-made handcraft items with violet motif made and sold by "E" Hansen) Sorry for this omission.	
Anne Tinari, PA	
speaker's fee of \$75.00 from Tristate AV Council and sale of Anne's gift	
plants of \$53.00	128.00
Tristate AV Council, NJ	
in memory of Ann Dooley, a long-time friend and active AVSA member	25.00
Rita G. Hilton, FL	
in memory of Marvin Plaire, Lakeland, FL	50.00
Don L. Thornburg, CA	10.00
Myrtle R. Chilcutt, TX	20.00
Suzanne P. Sutherland, AZ	20.00
Dale K. Jasaitis, NJ	
in lieu of speaker's fee for Bergen County AVS	25.00
Delphine R. Hotchkiss, AZ	25.00
Middle Georgia AVS, GA	25.00
Mrs. Sue Ramser, TX	
in memory of mother, Ila Woods	20.00
Eloise Cline, IL	20.00
Max C. Olson, IA	20.00
Mrs. Linda A. Jacobucci, CT	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. (Gordon & Mary) Creel, TX	20.00
Evening Bloomers AVS, IL	20.00
Mrs. Roger (Amy) Wiemer, CT	25.00
Mrs. Vincent (Cecelia) Gonnoud, CA	25.00
Mrs. James (Mary) Lester, CO	20.00
Hi Country Judges Workshop, CO	10.00
Arthur Norman, FL	20.00
Mrs. Jack (Audrey) Hanthorn, CA	25.00
New Jersey Council of AV Judges	
equal amounts in memory of Ann Dooley and Walter Hunt - two dedicated AV members	50.00

A. L. and Mary E. Bragg, FL

Since the February 25 report, copies of Pauline Bartholomew's book, *Growing To Show* have gone to: Diablo Valley AV Growers, CA; Louisiana Council of AV Judges, LA and Suburban AV Friends, CA

Anne Tinari offered copies of her book, *Our African Violet Heritage*, starting with March donations of \$20 or more to the Building Fund. The response has been very gratifying, as follows: Mrs. Rita G. Hilton, FL; Tristate AV Council, NJ; Mrs. Myrtle R. Chilcutt, TX; Middle Georgia AVS, GA; Delphine R. Hotchkiss, AZ; Suzanne P. Sutherland, AZ; Mrs. Eloise Cline, IL; Mrs. Sue Ramser, TX; Mr. Max C. Olsen, IA; Mr. and Mrs. (Gordon & Mary) Creel, TX; Mrs. Linda A. Jacobucci, CT; Evening Bloomers AVS, IL; Mrs. Roger (Amy) Wiemer, CT; Mrs. Cecelia Gonnoud, CA; Mrs. Mary Lester, CO; Mr. Arthur T. Norman, FL; Mrs. Jack (Audrey) Hanthorn, CA; New Jersey Council of AV Judges, NJ and Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Bragg, FL

Get your donations to the Building Fund in quickly so you can qualify for these two wonderful books before the limit of 50 is reached. They would be great additions to your library.

Fischer Greenhouses Take 1st in Philadelphia

Fischer Greenhouses, Linwood, NJ, won first prize in the commercial division at the prestigious Philadelphia Flower Show for excellence of display in their trade booth presentation.

Over 100 companies were in competition for this honor.

The annual Flower Show was held in Philadelphia Convention Hall in early March. Fischer Greenhouses has been an exhibitor each year for the past 40 years.

The theme of the Flower Show this year was, "The World Is Your Garden."

Fischer Greenhouses brought this theme into their trade booth with a large mossed globe mounted in a strawberry jar base.

The entire planting was on a rotating turntable. The globe itself had the continents formed with 600 blooming miniature violets from 1" pots. The violets were taken from the pots and inserted into the mossed base.

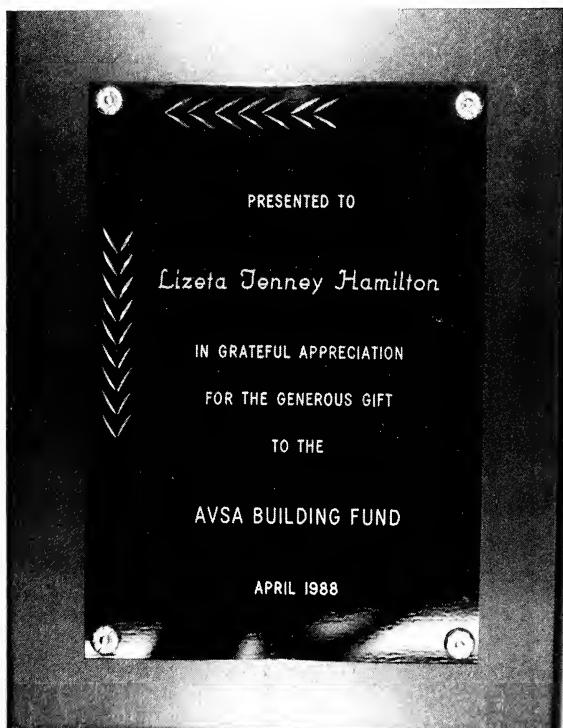
An impressionistic painted background formed the backdrop for this display.

Al Hill, grower and horticulturist at Fischer Greenhouses, designed and executed all elements of this display.

The Philadelphia Flower Show, an annual spring event, was visited by about 250,000 people during the 9-day period.

AVSA Honors Lizeta Hamilton

Janet Riemer, AVSA Secretary



The AVSA Building Fund received an enormous boost at the convention in Dallas in the form of a \$10,000 check from Lizeta Hamilton. Last year, Lizeta offered to donate that amount if the membership could raise \$20,000 by the 1988 convention. When that goal was reached in late March, Lizeta put her check in the mail to Nell-Sue Tyson, chairman of the fund, who announced its receipt to the AVSA Board of Directors at their first meeting in Dallas. In appreciation for this wonderful gift, the Board approved the presentation of a citation to Lizeta. She is pictured above with the citation. Also shown is a close-up of the engraved plaque.

Lizeta is not a stranger to the African Violet Society of America. A long-time member, she became affiliate chairman in 1964, a post which she held until 1971. In April 1975, she was elected secretary and served two years. AVSA recognized

her service with an Honorary One-Year Membership in 1965 and a Continuing Service Award in 1975. In addition to reports as affiliate chairman, Lizeta contributed many articles to the African Violet Magazine from 1958 to 1964 on soil, miniatures, judging and factors affecting culture. She was an active judge and judging school teacher for many years and as a staunch advocate of judging consistency, supported the concept of regional judges councils.

After years of service, Lizeta is still serving the Society she loves so well.

Thank You, Lizeta.

SHOWS AND JUDGES

*Emilie Savage
39 Mead Drive
Chillicothe, OH 45601*



My regular column will be in the September/October issue of the African Violet Magazine; however, two important motions concerning changes in the Judges Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors and Judges were passed by the AVSA Board of Directors. These rules are effective upon publication in the July/August issue of the African Violet Magazine and are listed below for the benefit of our affiliate show committees, judges and exhibitors.

1. Page 43. An addition to Rule 10, under AVSA RULES TO BE INCLUDED IN SCHEDULES. Rule 10 will read as follows: "Only AVSA Members are eligible to enter the AVSA Collection Classes. Only one Collection may be entered by an exhibitor." (Explanation: This rule has been in previous Judges Handbooks but was inadvertently omitted from the new Handbook.)

2. Page 83. AVSA STANDARD SHOW AWARD POINT SCORE SHEET (SSA) Changed as follows:

1. EXHIBITS AND EXHIBITORS

a. Number of exhibits in horticulture and design divisions

6 points if number of exhibits is 4 times club membership;

6 points if number of exhibits is 4 times council, state, or regional membership in attendance:

b. Percentage of members exhibiting

4 points if 50% of club exhibits

4 points if 25% of registered members attending council, state or regional groups with over 100 members exhibits; (adjust points for less) (Explanation: After receiving letters from many large councils and regional societies that they could not qualify for the AVSA Standard Show Awards due to the number of members who were subscription members only, we conducted a survey and realized that a

change was needed. In consultation with Bill Foster, Affiliate Chairman, we have come up with revised rules for these types of affiliates and believe this will give these affiliates the necessary incentive to apply for these Awards. Our survey showed that some groups had conventions in conjunction with their shows. Under this new rule, members attending the convention would be counted. Other groups informed us that they met to put on a show, but did not have a convention. By the same token, members who meet to have a show would be counted as "members in attendance."

I do appreciate the nice letters I received after the convention. It gives me a good feeling to know that you enjoyed the judging experience, too. My regular column will resume in the September/October issue of the African Violet Magazine with questions and answers from the judges breakfast.



"Violets Win An Oscar," was the theme of the Long Island AVS show. Top winners were: Eileen Denison shown holding her 2nd best in show, Ramblin Prince, Frances Berman, best in show, Southern Ivory, and show chairman, Dolores O'Sullivan presenting the awards.



LYNDON LYON GREENHOUSES

PIXIE BLUE

a miniature trailer
grown by
EDWARD BRADFORD
of New York

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



If you have hybridized a plant and named it with the intention of registering it in the future, please request a name reservation. That way you won't be disappointed after a year or two of growing a plant that you call "Pretty Pink," to find that the name was reserved just recently, and is therefore not available for your plant. Reservations are \$1.00 for a period of two years. Registrations are \$5.00.

Registrations

Gayle Gill, Kansas City, MO

***Crown Center** - Standard - Single star chimera. Pink fantasy with lavender stripe, geneva edge. Medium green, plain foliage with red reverse. #6859 3/1/88

Mrs. R. D. Tompkin, Fayette, MO

***Calico Rose** - Semimini - Double ruffled white with hot pink splotches and edges. Medium green, plain, pointed, hairy foliage. #6860 3/1/88

***Frosty Morning** - Standard - Double ruffled blue with white veining and edge. Dark green, plain foliage, slightly red reverse. #6861 3/1/88

***Peppermint Parasol** - Semimini - Single ruffled white with fuchsia fantasy. Light green plain, pointed foliage. #6862 3/1/88

Penny Brenner, New Orleans, LA

***Joyful Josie** - Semimini - Double rose two tone. Dark green, plain foliage with red reverse. #6863 3/12/88

***Lovely Laura** - Semimini - Single white with random orchid fantasy. Medium green, plain foliage with light reverse. #6864 3/12/88

***Lovely Linda** - Semimini - Double coral pink with some white. Variable. Medium green, plain foliage, pale green reverse, #6865 3/12/88

***Lucky Lee Ann** - Semimini - Single plum two tone. Dark green, plain foliage with red reverse. #6866 3/12/88

***Royal Dogwood** - Semimini - Single plum with white dogwood spot on blossom tips. Dark green, plain foliage. #6867 3/12/88

***Sweet Sophie** - Semimini - Semidouble pink two tone. Medium green, plain, light green reverse. #6868 3/12/88

Barbara Sisk, Gretna, LA

***Crawdaddy** - Large - Double deep lavender two tone. Dark green and white variegated, quilted foliage. #6869 3/19/88

***Fountainbleau** - Large - Double medium blue. Green, white and pink variegated foliage. #6870 3/19/88

***Luzianna** - Large - Double blue two tone. Dark green and pink variegated foliage. #6871 3/19/88

***Mister Excitement** - Large - Double ruffled deep blue. Dark green and white variegated, quilted foliage. #6872 3/19/88

***South Bound** - Large - Double orchid two tone. Green, pink and white variegated ruffled foliage. #6873 3/19/88

Bess Fraser, Tucson, AZ

***Pima Stars** - Standard - Single chimera, white with blue edge and stripe. Quilted round foliage. #6874 3/25/88

Edna McCawley, Tulsa, OK

***Eula** - Standard - Single fringed pansy shaped bright pink with band of bright fuchsia two tone. Green and white variegated, quilted, ovate foliage. #6875 4/2/88

***Happy Harriet** - Large - Full double star, medium pink, sometimes with a pencil thin fuchsia edge. Green with pink variegated edge, quilted foliage. #6876 4/2/88

Name Reservations

Penny Brenner, New Orleans, LA

* Awesome Al * Gentle Genelle * Fanci Face * Jazzi
Babi * Mini Moonwalk * Petite Prize * Sassy Sadie
* Second Lining * Sweet Saintsational *

Alexandria AVS/Beverly Bullock, Alexandria,
VA

* Louisiana Crossroads *

Dodie Nelson, Anchorage, AK

* Kato * Katy Kat * My Little Kitty * Pea Blossom

Marie Burns, Baltimore, MD

* Frilled Fuchsia * Magic Lady * Magic Star *
Marcus * Memories * Misty Magic * Mystery *
Ruffled Raspberry * Star Brite *

Are You Growing These Plants?

Thank you for the reports on the oldies that you are growing. It is very interesting that most of you are all growing a lot of the same plants, such as "Edna Fischer." We are not going to re-use any of the old registration numbers or names, which should avoid any confusion in the future. The plants listed below will be considered obsolete if we do not hear from you by December, 1988. Please send all information to: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

S

Sailor Girl, #561; Sailor's Delight, #562; Sailor's Sweetheart, #804; Salem Gem, #563; Salem Maiden, #564; Sally's Doll, #857; San Juan, #566; San Juan's Alice Dimmick, #567; San Juan's Rare Coin, #568; San Juan's Redwood Ballad, #569; San Juan's Sugar Dip, #570; San Juan's Tall Talk, #571; Sandra's Choice, #565; Sapphire, AVS-48; Sarah Ann, #572; Sea Queen, #573; Select Double Garnet, #574; Semi Double Blue Bouquet, #575; Serenity, #576; Shadrach, #577; Sherri, #578; Show Pink, #579; Show Star, #774; Silhouette, #580; Silly, #581; Silver Beauty, #582; Silver Flute, #833; Silver Moon, #583; Silver Token, #585; Silver Waves, #979; Silvertip, #584; Sir Lancelot, #586; Sky Blue, AVS-48; Sky Blue Supreme, #587; Smoky, #588; Snow Finch, #962; Snow Flake, #589; Snow Girl, #590; Snow Line, #591; Snow Peak, #935; Snow Prince, #592; Snow Princess, #593; Snow Storm, #594; Snowy Princess, #880; So Sweet, #973; Solange, #595; Soldier Boy, #596; Sonja, #963; Span, #992; Spanish Lace, #870; Spic, #993; Spindrift, #793; Splash, #712; Spoon Girl, #597; Spring Beauty, #598; Spring Sky, #599; Spring Song, #952; Star Pink, #994; Starch White, #600; Starglow, #601; Starlace, #602; Sugar Babe, #603; Summer Skies, #604; Sunbonnet Baby, #605; Sundance, #606; Sundream, #607; Sunrise, #608; Sunset Glory, #609; Sunset Lane, #610; Sunset Maiden, #611; Swanee, #708; Sweet Memory, #747; Sweet Refrain, #998; Sweet Song, #980; Sweetheart, #612; Sweetpea Pink, #855; Swirling Girl, #613; Swiss Pansy, #953

T

T-V Beaumont Beauty, #713; T-V Bubbles, #714; T-V Bunny Hop, #715; T-V Chaperon, #716; T-V Cut Velvet, #717; T-V Flirty Eyes, #823; T-V Handsome, #718; T-V Impudence, #720; T-V Jazz, #721; T-V Jealousy, #719; T-V Mambo, #722; T-V Page Boy, #723; T-V Patio Dance, #724; T-V Pert, #725; T-V Pink Margaret, #825; T-V Pink Playboy, #826; T-V Rose Frills, #726; T-V Rose Prom, #728; T-V Rosefroth, #727; T-V Rosy Snow Storm, #729; T-V Scandal, #822; T-V Seven Veils, #824;

Joen Gehr, Land O' Lakes, WI

* Alf * Electric Star * Father Figure * Frozen Ghost
* Head Strong * Heavy Metal * Hungry Eyes * So
Emotional * Cross Country Trail *

Dottie Wilson, Bryan, TX

* Flirtatious * Peach Float * Ruthie Gee * Touch of
Velvet *

Leila Egenites/Annalee Violetry, Bayside, NY

* Scuba Diver *

Registration Corrections

* Lovely Lady - #6771 11/9/87 - Please change
name to Cookie's Lovely Lady

T-V Spring Finery, #730; T-V Stag Line, #732; T-V Stage Struck, #731; T-V Summer Cloud, #734; T-V Summer Dream, #733; T-V Swirling Petticoats, #735; T-V Texas Goliath, #736; T-V Tuxedo, #737; T-V Vallinpink, #820; T-V Whispers, #821; Taj Mahal, #614; Tammie Rae, #763; Technicolor, #696; Temptation, #615; Tex Ann, #616; Texas Fringe, #617; Thistle, #618; Thunderhead, #619; Tiana, #947; Tillie, #995; Tinari's Amazon Blue Eyes, #620; Tinari's America, #621; Tinari's Blue Eyes, #622; Tinari's Blue Flute, #623; Tinari's Double Mentor Boy, #624; Tinari's Geneva Trailer, #625; Tinari's Mammoth Blue, #626; Tinari's Pink Luster, #627; Tinari's Purple Prince Supreme, #628; Tinari's Royal Blue Trailer, #629; Tinari's Sky Blue Trailer, #630; Tinari's Snow Trailer, #632; Tinari's Star Trailer, #631; Tinari's Wild Girl, #633; Tinted Lady, AVS-48; Tinted Star, #969; Tiny Doll, #634; Tiny Lady, #635; Tipwood Blue, #636; Tipwood Pink, #637; Tomboy, #638; Topaz, AVS-48; Topaz Amazon, #639; Torchy, #948; Transylvania Cabaret Girl, #802; Tressie, #951; Tufted Beauty, #640; Tunia's Cleveland Indian, #641; Tunia's Double Snow Queen, #642; Twilight, #643; Twinkle, #644

U

Ulery's Red Wing, #871; Unique, #645; Upjohn, #646

V

Valor, #794; Vanity, #647; Vanity Fair, #949; Velda Rose, #648; Velvet Bouquet, #649; Velvet Girl, #650; Venice Girl, #651; Vera's Heirloom, #652; Veribest, #653; Victor Lee, #654; Violet Beauty, #656; Violet Pixie, #659; Violette Baby Doll, #657; Violette Bronze Baby, #658; Virginia Star, #660; Virginian, #788; Volute Girl, #661

W, Y, Z

Warm Welcome, #882; Wax Doll, #662; Welcome Stranger, #941; Western Girl, #664; White Angel, #981; White Buttercup, #665; White Butterfly, #666; White Caps, #667; White Dream, #982; White Dupont, #668; White Lady, AVS-48; White Orchid, #671; White Pearl, #672; White Pride Supreme, #869; White Promise, #673; White Sail, #801; Wild Cherry, #805; Wild Rosa Supreme, #900; Wilson's Lovely Lady, #971; Windsong, #674; Wine Buttercup, #675; Wine Velvet, #676; Wintergreen, #878; Wonder Star, #677; Wood Sprite, #678; Wynken, #679; Yellow Brown Boy, #681; Yellow Brown Girl, #680; Yoars Beauty, #682; Young Bess, #683; Zelma, #684; Zuelma, #685; Zulu Queen, #686



Freckled Star

Tinari's Greenhouses

Fantasy Frolic



Variegated African Violets

Denis Croteau

Introduction

African violets are known as "the Queens of Indoor Gardening" while variegated violets can be considered the jewels. These jewels having light or dark foliage contrasting with creamy white, pink or even chartreuse markings have all the usual colored blossoms normally seen on violets.

History

The story of the variegated African violet started December 31, 1956, the day Mrs. Tommie Louise Oden ordered leaves of 'White Pride' from Clyde Rollof. At that time, this plant was the best double white. Mrs. Oden received the leaves on January 10, 1957. The leaves were planted and in March she noticed one of the plantlets had unusual foliage. Each leaf was edged in a creamy white. Mrs. Oden grew the new variety through nine generations to ensure the mutation came true. There had been other variegated violets but they turned out to be unstable. Later some of her friends requested that this new variety be named "Tommie Lou" in her honor.

Tommie Lou won many awards, being named Violet of the Year many times. It also gave Mrs. Oden the opportunity to travel all over the United States, telling the Tommie Lou story to fascinated growers of African violets.

After a few years, violet growers began to dream of variegated leaves with different colored blossoms. Hybridizers tried by without success. Even the great Lyndon Lyon said the variety was sterile. But Harold Reinhardt saw it as a challenge. He crossed the Tommie Lou owned by his wife, Cordelia, many times, but without success. Finally, in 1969, he succeeded — 11 years after the birth of Tommie Lou. We now know that the reproductive organs of Tommie Lou are deformed, possibly due to the double blossom gene. Even if Reinhardt was successful in this historic crossing, he didn't have the pleasure of cultivating it and seeing the first plants resulting from the crossing. As a matter of fact, the Reinhardts had to move during this period and Harold removed the seed pod from Tommie Lou and gave it to his friend, Lyndon Lyon. So it was Lyon who is considered to be really responsible for

the second generation.

This second generation was a cross with 'Purple Gold' and produced such varieties as Top Dollar, Nancy Reagan, Happy Harold and Lyndy Lou. Later an American clergyman, Charles Blade, had much success with the Parson series. His first cross was Tommie Lou with After Five by Ethel Champion. Here he used Tommie Lou as the mother plant. African violet blossoms are hermaphrodite which means they contain both male and female sexual parts and can be used as either the mother or the father, according to the wishes of the hybridizer.

Several other hybridizers have introduced variegated foliage, for example Barbara Sisk of Violets c/o Cookie with Southern Comfort and many others. Irene Fredette produced one of my favorites, Silver Lining. Paul Sorano, grandson of Lyndon Lyon and the new owner of Lyon's Greenhouses is also successful with his variegated varieties.

Some members of our clubs, Association Des Amateurs de Violettes Africaines de Montréal and African Violet Society of Greater Montréal, such as Michel Tremblay and Yvon Decelles have specialized in the variegated varieties. Michel has introduced recently, Marie-Sylvia, La Mer and Picasso which are all beautiful.

Yvon Decelles decided to concentrate solely on variegated foliage. He hasn't introduced any of his varieties yet, but as everyone who knows Yvon, knows it's only a matter of time. As for me, I have been experimenting too but until I'm satisfied with the results, I won't be releasing any yet.

Different Kinds of Variegation

There are four types of variegation - spontaneous, crown, Tommie Lou and mosaic.

Spontaneous. These are the least stable in the variegated group. The leaves can be creamy white, pink or chartreuse. This variegation may last for a short time only and then disappear altogether. It could happen on all new leaves or only on one leaf. This type of variegation can be passed on to the new generation but in most cases, new plantlets won't show it. It can rarely be passed on through hybridization because the genes don't have that trait for

variegation. It results from the inability of one or more cells to produce chlorophyl. These isolated defective cells are able to sub-divide or duplicate themselves to create this temporary variegation. But there is no change to their genetic make-up. It's a dead-end as far as hybridizing is concerned. Nearly all green leaved varieties can produce a leaf showing variegation. In order for the variegation to be present in the plant, the original variegated cells must originate from the crown. Otherwise they end up by disappearing altogether.

Crown Variegation. These variegations are passed on through heredity and they are more stable and permanent than spontaneous. There are two conditions necessary — they cannot be fed fertilizer with a high nitrogen count and should not be exposed to too high temperatures. This means below 80° F. This type of variegation can produce the chlorophyl necessary to grow. We call this a genetical trait or "sex-linked genes." You can only use this plant as the mother in hybridizing. The variegation must have resulted from a shock or a genetic error. Mrs. Vallin was the first person to specialize on crown variegation with her "Val" series in the late 50s and early 60s. Mrs. Ethel Champion introduced a second type of crown variegation with yellow or dull pink coloring. Her plantlets are usually a creamy color and gradually get more green as they mature. These plants must maintain some green in their leaves or they will die. Most growers feed their plantlets with a high nitrogen fertilizer to give them a good start and to aid the mature plantlets in replacing lost chlorophyl.

Tommie Lou. The Tommie Lou type may be simply a creamy white edge to even more intense variegation throughout the leaves. It is less affected by high temperatures or high nitrogen, particularly the newer varieties. The same phenomenon "sex-linked genes" appears on this type of variegation. The mother plant must be variegated to pass on the genes or both parents can be variegated. For several years now, this type of variegation has been known as having Tommie Lou foliage.

Mosaic. There have only been a few of this type of variegation since it was introduced many years ago. They are very stable and are not affected by temperature change or high nitrogen fertilizer. This "mosaic" pattern covers the whole leaf and is a serious genetic defect or mutation and very few of them reach maturity when used in a crossing. As a

result, it is considered to be either sterile or very difficult to cross successfully. Only a few seeds reach maturity. These plantlets are puny or are hard to grow. Emperor and Lillian Jarrett are, however, good show plants and Mrs. Champion has introduced three new varieties of this type of variegation during 1987.

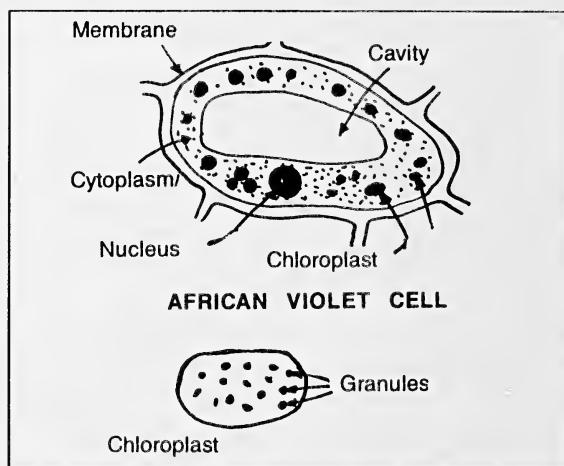
Minatures and Trailers

Several hybridizers, mainly Lyndon Lyon, have developed miniatures and trailers with variegated foliage. This variegation adds an irresistible charm to these new varieties, replicas of the regular sizes.

The variation in variegated African violets such as crown type, Tommie Lou or mosaic are not the result of a viral infection as we have already seen in certain species of plants. It is a natural mutation caused by a change at the genetic level which lets the variegation show.

Why Variegated Foliage?

To understand why there is variegated foliage, we must look at the cell structure. In each cell are found microscopic bodies or fine granules suspended in a viscous translucent material (cytoplasm or protoplasm). The kernal or nucleus occupies a small part of the cell and is surrounded by the cytoplasm. In the cytoplasm there are chloroplasts which are responsible for the production of chlorophyl.



Chlorophyl gives the rich green color to the leaves. Variegation is caused by a lack of chlorophyl. We don't know if it is the capacity to produce chlorophyl which is affected or if the cell doesn't contain enough chloroplasts to make the leaf all green.

Most of the genetic influences are found in the

nucleus. Geneticists have proven that some characteristics are transmitted by the cytoplasm - this is called cytoplasmic heredity. The male cells hardly contain any cytoplasm but it is present in large quantities in the female cell. Now it is seen why we must use the variegated plant as mother. Cells producing chlorophyl are only transmitted by female ones. Using green colored leaves as mother will only give us green offspring. But using variegated leaved plants as both parents will produce variegated offspring.

Culture. Variegated leaved violets are grown like the others with a few differences. Due to a lack of chlorophyl, they grow more slowly. The amateur grower must be more patient. We use the same type of soil and watering is unchanged.

Fertilizers. It is better to use a fertilizer like Peter's 5-50-17 as it contains less nitrogen which gives us the green leaf. At 80° F certain variegated varieties tend to revert to all green so it is better to keep them in a cool place preferably on the bottom shelf of your light stand. Nitrogen is more easily absorbed in hot weather. This is because bacteria producing chlorophyl are more active with higher temperatures. This also explains why leaves get very white at low temperatures. The supposedly ideal night and day temperatures for variegated violets are 58°F and 68°F respectively. I don't have these ideal conditions in my home and yet I can grow nicely variegated violets.

Cuttings. Use leaves that are not too young or too old. Leaves from the second row from the bottom are the best. Each leaf must have as much green as possible, otherwise the mother leaf will not be able to nourish the babies. As with crown variegation, the center is almost completely variegated. Wait until the plantlets contain enough chlorophyl before separating them from the mother. Otherwise they will die due to lack of chlorophyl.

Leaf's Undercolor. While variegation can't be transmitted genetically, it can only be passed on by a mother cell to a girl cell. In contrast, the color of the variegated leaf is genetically transmitted. For example, green undercolor produces cream variegation, silver produces white, pink produces a light rose and a dark red reverse produces a dark pink variegation.

Conclusion

As you have all noticed, variegated African violets are certainly the most beautiful of all violets and

with the persistence of hybridizers, they will become even more magnificent.

(Reprinted with permission from "Chatter," The Journal of the African Violet Society of Canada, John Beaulieu, Editor.)

Get The Royal Treatment

Part 2

Kent Stork



Let that familiar tune, "Goin' to Kansas City" start running through your mind, and make your plans now to head for Kansas City, MO, for the 43rd annual AVSA convention, May 22-28, 1989.

Few hotels offer the many pleasures to be found in around the impressive Westin Crown Center Hotel, which is itself a favorite attraction for visitors to Kansas City. Imagine seeing a waterfall cascading down a five-story-high natural limestone rock formation inside the hotel lobby! And this spectacular backdrop for the schedule of activities is a mere beginning to the surprises in store for convention-goers.

Connected directly to the hotel are the three levels of the Crown Center Shops featuring unique stores and boutiques with wide-ranging merchandise to delight every dedicated shopper. Included is the Heartland Market with its network of restaurants and specialty food retail outlets. Nearly 20 establishments, ranging from an ice cream parlor and a full service bakery to elegant fine dining, should more than satisfy anyone's appetite. And there is no need even to step outside.

The entire Crown Center area is a \$500 million project financed by Hallmark Cards, Inc. Also featured are major office complexes, luxury apartments and condominiums, and a 10-acre landscaped square that is the site of numerous free concerts,

festivals and special events for community entertainment. Hallmark, headquartered in Kansas City, is the world's largest manufacturer of greeting cards. The Hallmark Visitors Center, conveniently located within the area, is bound to be yet another popular attraction for convention-goers. Free to the public, it showcases the creativity and craftsmanship involved in the making of Hallmark products through actual demonstration, visitor-activated displays and film and video presentations.

There will be much to see and do during your stay in Kansas City, even if you have no personal transportation. Besides the joys of the Crown Center, you can hop aboard the trolley for a ride to the historic Westport district or to the fabulous Country Club

Plaza for even more adventures in shopping. Or cross the street west of the hotel and take in the Liberty Memorial Museum, the nation's only museum devoted to World War I and the part that America played in it. A vast collection of war memorabilia and artifacts is housed therein, including a full-scale walk-through replica of a WWI battle trench. Rising above the memorial is a 217-foot tall tower that permits a breathtaking panoramic view of the city.

The convention theme was chosen as an expression of friendly mid-American hospitality. Your hosts want you to feel you have been treated royally in every way. Come experience Kansas City. For beautiful violets, beautiful friendships and beautiful surroundings, come and Get the Royal Treatment.

What's All The Gurgling In My Violet Room?

*Lynda C. Welchel
Magic Knight AVS
San Antonio, TX*

While walking past my violet room the other day, the idea of just how and why our violets use water and strike a balance between wet and dry, crossed my mind. After giving it some thought I began to realize that there is a very intricate plumbing system working 365 days a year, tirelessly, and without so much as a peep or a cry for assistance, fewer hours, or higher wages!

When there is no water, there are no plants. We all know that water is only one of the many substances on which our plants depend on for life. Let's first stop and remember that just as it was the medium in which its life first began, so it is the essential element of water which caused the tiny seed to wake from its dormancy, poke out a tiny hair-like plant and eventually yawn and stretch and come alive into what we all know as a plant. A seed may be completely dry, its life put on hold with no chemical reactions occurring, no sign of life at all. Add some water, and in a short time you bring it to life. Water, after the seed is the facet that sets the life cycle into motion.

As our violets grow its need for more water and nutrients also increases. Violets take in water through the roots. Water is used in all chemical

reactions; it carries nutrients through its vast plumbing system to the stem and leaves and finally passes out of the leaves as vapor or liquid. The plumbing system of our violets is extremely efficient, however it has its limits. Without water, none of the systems in our plants would function. Water is the life-line to plants and is essential to our lives.

How Do Plants Use Water?

Water is a very important element in our violet growing. How do plants use water? Our plants have a very intricate plumbing system in motion in our violet rooms which has its beginning in the fine root hairs. Through the process of osmosis water is diffused into the cells and the manufacturing/plumbing system dilutes the sugars, salts, and other elements in the plant. As a few ounces of water pass up through the roots, more pressure is put into the plant and its walls, stem, blossoms, and leaves become stretched. It is only at this point that we have a plant growing in all its glory.

At the other end of this intricate plumbing system is the area where the plant loses the moisture it has acquired through the roots through a process called transpiration. Transpiration is the process where

through tiny pores in the leaves that moisture is lost into the surrounding air.

How do the roots get this water in the first place? This is accomplished by a process known as osmosis, the absorption of a liquid through a cell's surface. Plants are covered with many tiny root hairs. These hairs penetrate the most minute crannies in the soil, and wherever they find moisture their cells take it in. When our violets have lots of water filling their cells they look lovely. It's the exceptional grower that has not found a plant that has a dry wick, dry plant medium and for one reason or another is not getting adequate amounts of water. Our violets in this condition do indeed look quite sad.

You could compare your plant to a balloon filled with air and one without air. When the plant loses more water through transpiration than it can absorb through its roots, the cell wall may partially deflate and your poor violet is in a state called wilt. If it does not get any water, we all know it dries up completely and dies.

This may be caused by an empty reservoir, or perhaps the wick has become clogged up with fertilizer salts, algae, or deposits from water. The best remedy in this case is to gently wash the bottom portion of the wick that is extending out from the bottom of the pot. Holding the pot in one hand, run warm water over the portion of the wick extending out from the bottom of the pot. Using your fingers, gently squeeze down on the wick and take off any deposits that may have accumulated on the wick. Be careful not to pull the wick out from the pot. When you have completed this portion of care, pour some warm water through the pot and let it drain into the sink. Then set the plant in a small dish with about an inch or so of warm water for 20-30 minutes. This process will usually rehydrate your plant medium. However, after this procedure, do not add fertilizer to this plant for a day or two. If you fertilize a plant that has wilted, it will surely burn. After 1-2 days you may return to your regular fertilizing program. If this process fails to rehydrate the plant medium, I usually will take the plant out of its pot and remove as much of the dry plant medium as possible and start over again with fresh planting material.

What is all this activity going on in our plant rooms all the time? Our violet plant is actually a very busy and quite effective factory that rarely rests completely. Water movement is accomplished by osmosis, but is very slow. Individual cells in a plant

will take up water, but there is a limit to the amount a single cell can take up. Just as violet people are friendly, so are the plant cells. If one cell loses some water, its cell-wall pressure will decrease; however, one cell can pass water from one to the other if there is an absorptive power between them. If one cell loses some water, its cell-wall pressure will decrease. One cell can drink from its neighbor. This process can be visualized by picturing the cell nearest to the water will have the smallest absorption capacity; the one at the other end of the chain will be the thirstiest, with the largest absorption power.

What causes our plants to wilt? When plants are not able to draw moisture from the soil, all the parts of the plant undergo a sort of reverse osmosis. A negative pressure reaction travels down through the plant, shrinking and breaking up its cell structure. The pores on the leaves contain a mechanism which controls the rate of water loss. The stoma (meaning little mouth) controls the rate of water loss from the plant. The stomas can be opened or closed by the action of two cells bordering each stoma. The opening mechanism functions according to the water supply in the leaf.

Now let's take a good look at this plumbing system as a whole. We have water coming into the root hairs by means of osmosis and evaporating out the leaves by transpiration. Obviously, if the plant is to be kept from wilting it must balance its water intake and output. It is quite important not to keep your planting medium too wet, nor too dry.

How You Can Help Your Plant's Plumbing System

You can assist your plant's plumbing system by giving your plants a bath every couple of months using warm water (about 10-15 degrees warmer than the air). Be sure to keep the plant out of drafts, and out of direct sunlight while it is still wet. Direct sunlight on wet plants will cause burn spots. When bathing violets try not to get water on the center area of the crown. I sometimes put a tissue on the crown of the plant if I inadvertently get it wet. I also try and wash plants early in the day so the plants will have plenty of time to dry before the evening hours. In addition, the use of a soft brush helps to keep the leaves clean and keep the tiny pores open in between baths.

Next time you walk by your violet room, if you listen very carefully, you may hear a happy gurgle—your violets' plumbing systems are at work.

QUESTION BOX



Mrs. John Hayes
9 Cobblestone Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002



The convention is now a thing of the past, and probably many of those VERY tired convention workers prefer to remember it as a thing of the past. If you have never served on or chaired a convention committee, you should know these are very dedicated AVSA members who devote much time and effort for your behalf, to present a special "violet" time for those able to attend conventions. Dallas was the big "D." What a marvelous time we did have. Bill Foster and all his willing and able workers have a lot to be proud of. Southern hospitality is indeed special, and even better were those violet society members who gave of themselves to help the rest of us have a grand time!

It is "that" time of the year again — gardening time — and with it goes all the warnings and precautions that need to be taken if you are one of those that lead two horticultural lives. Outdoor bugs and indoor plants, African violets, do NOT mix. You must be quite fastidious when returning from the wilds of the outdoors to your indoor buddies. Changing of clothes, washing of hands and arms, and anything else you can think of will serve you best in preventing the transmission of anything harmful to your special violet babies.

Several societies across the country have fall shows and exhibits. Remember — good show plants are made, not born. You must attend to their special needs all summer. You cannot start in September and expect to exhibit a good plant in November. For those of you that have heat and humidity problems, pay heed to a couple of questions later in this column.

Question: Designing with African violets appears to take a special talent. My first convention was Orlando and I could hardly leave the design section; the quality was so good. Can you help me to learn this craft?

Answer: Like all creative talents, some are God-given and others can be learned to a degree. There are without a doubt some very special creative designers that exhibited at last year's convention. Studying entries at any show, and taking pictures to go with your notes, will go a long way in learning this craft. There are many fine resources you can start with. Of course, you would expect me to crow about our fine magazine. There have been two articles this past year as part of the Beginner's Forum that you might want to read. In the January/February 1988 issue, Hugh Mackey addressed beginners in design in a most interesting manner and in the September/October 1987 issue, my friend Norita Hallum expounded on my favorite line — the crescent. I think that by studying her words carefully, would greatly enhance your knowledge. There is also a new book on the market, well recommended by many, called *Floral Design Concepts* and it is advertised in the March/April 1988 issue. Ruth Jo McCoy has done a fine job with this publication.

Question: I have been told that I must not use air conditioning for my violets. What can I do about the high temperatures that we have here in New Mexico?

Answer: Like many questions, there are many answers, and this one is no exception. There are some precautions that must be taken when using air conditioning in your plant growing area. Many, many people use air conditioners. By themselves they will not harm your plants, but exposure to excessive temperatures will. Any draft, including the cold air from a conditioner, will harm plants, but being in the room serviced by a conditioner will not. You must be sure that the direct cold air is not blowing on your plants. Using an air conditioner obviously depletes the available humidity (another important factor in bloom production) to your

plants. You must be prepared to supplement the moisture requirements frequently when using an air conditioner.

Question: Where can I obtain a plant stand for my violets? Which one should I buy?

Answer: It is difficult to write this column and not always make official "endorsements." This is a frequently asked question and I felt that it needed to be answered publicly. Needs that are personal to you will relate to the choices you can make in purchasing a plant stand. The most obvious is cost, as they do cause you to put out a substantial amount of money. Do we ever spare funds for the care of our plants? Seriously, there is a wide variety of cost, as can be seen by turning to the advertising section of this magazine. The Floracart is by far the most popular, country-wide, and as you can see by ads, you can "shop around" for prices. Be sure when looking at ads for any light stand, that you include all the costs, i.e., light fixtures, bulbs and shipping. Many ads differ in what they offer. Size is probably the other most important factor when you are shopping around. Check out the dimensions of the stand you are considering and carefully check the space you plan to use it in. Recently a friend of mine purchased a stand at a local display and brought it home to find that she could not fit it into that corner of the den. She ended up rearranging the room.

Question: My plants seem to suffer during the summer. What can I do to help them out?

Answer: Not all are lucky enough to have the availability of air conditioning. There are other techniques that can contribute to the lessening of ill effects from prolonged exposure to high temperatures. There is no question that our plants need a change in temperature — that proverbial 10 degree drop at night. Certain plants need this in order to grow and produce flowers well. African violets are in this group. Reversing the cycle of lights will not necessarily take care of this, but you can turn off your lights for a few hours in the day, or even longer during a prolonged hot spell. You can increase the use of fans, being careful to not have the fans blowing directly on your plants. If the humidity is not excessive, misting plants frequently will help also. Sometimes, just keeping shades closed during the day may well decrease the amount of heat.

Question: The judges commented on one of my two show plants, that I had not removed two leaves

that would have improved the symmetry of my plant. How can I be sure that I have removed the right leaves without destroying the pattern of my plant? I have done this altogether too frequently.

Answer: I have to assume by comments that this exhibitor related, that she had not looked for the "triangle" of leaf growth that violets exhibit. The leaves on a violet grow in groups of threes. When you are grooming to improve symmetry, you should look for those "three" leaves and determine whether or not that group should come off. You nearly always find that one does not come off without the others. Taking off leaves is a risky business for us all, but even more so for the novice exhibitor. Years ago, a very special friend, and probably my "violet mother," Doris Wilson, sat me down and firmly demonstrated to me how I had just ruined a perfect show plant by removing too many leaves. She took pieces of paper and laid them on top of the leaves in question; therefore hiding them from view. She then put the plant down on the floor and looked down at the plant to see if the choices improved the symmetry. In this fashion one does NOT remove a leaf that you wish you could put back. Others have used computer file cards, tissues, etc., whatever you use does not matter, but the fact that you "practice" first, does. In Pauline Bartholomew's book, *Growing To Show*, she has a marvelous section on improving the symmetry of a plant which addresses immature leaves, lopsided growth, etc.

Question: What are the advantages of foliar feeding? I have recently seen a group of exceptionally well-grown show plants that I was told were foliar fed. Why should we not all feed this way?

Answer: This question should be the subject of a lengthy article. There are certain conditions that must be met in order to foliar feed. First and foremost, the advantage is that there is a tremendously high percentage of the fertilizer absorbed by the leaf of the African violet. Unfortunately, it is not the easiest method of feeding and requires constant adherence to the rules, and the ability to address this method of feeding with respect to the smallest detail. This method can quickly cause over feeding. It should not be used totally, as the only source of food. Many do not use it more than once or twice a month. Your plants should be firm, not limp; lights should be on for a good length of time after spraying; water used must be HOT or it will be cold by the time it

1988 Affiliate Publications Awards

Bob L. Green

Chairman, Publications Committee

reaches your plants. The fine droplets are quickly cooled by the air. Be careful not to get too much spray in the crown of the plant and mix according to directions. A little bit more is NOT better. Last but not least, experiment with a few plants over a few months, to be sure that you are doing it right and that your environmental conditions are appropriate for foliar feeding.

Question: Why is it that I often wait so long to get new plants shipped from the advertisers in this magazine? I have no outlet near me to buy new varieties and often cannot attend conventions. I rely upon commercials to help me add new plants to my collection.

Answer: An inquiry to this grower helped to answer this question to her best interest. Our commercials are among our most important members of this society. It could become boring if we were not to have all the beautiful new hybrids each year. We welcome using the advertisers in this magazine, and they serve us all well. Shipping requires a science and a great deal of dedication. It is not easy to ship plants. Many who ship plants have one date on which they start shipping, regardless of temperatures in "their" part of the country. Obviously, many southern commercials could ship for greater lengths of time, but prefer to keep one date for all. Remember, they need time to grow your orders. Most commercial members ship requests in the order that they receive the mail. If you get your order in late, or if there is a rush for a particular grower that year, you will have to wait your turn. That is easier said than done; when we get those descriptive lists it is often hard to decide what you can do WITHOUT and then to have to wait for shipping is hard. Seriously, if you feel you have a complaint, please address any such concerns about advertisers to our advertising manager, Meredith Hall. Her address is listed in the front of the magazine on page 2. We cannot assume responsibility for ads, but will do all that we can to help you.

Question: I have difficulty removing suckers on my plants due to arthritis. Friends have suggested that I use a pencil, but this does not seem to work too well for me.

Answer: I have two tools that I cannot be without — one is my nut pick and the other is a discarded dentist tool with a sharp-edge hook on the end. Just ask your dentist for any of his (or her) throw-aways!

Magazine & Newsletter Winners

The Atchafalaya Violet Society of America (Louisiana), with Mr. George Ramirez as chairman, judged the affiliate magazines and newsletters for the Dallas Convention, and selected the following:

First Award - The Transvaal African Violet Society (Republic of South Africa) magazine, Lucia Anelich, editor.

First Award - Ventura County African Violet Society (California) newsletter, Jean Shipley, editor.

Yearbook Winners

The African Violet Council of Florida, with Mrs. Janet DuCharme as chairman, judged the affiliate yearbooks for the Dallas Convention, and selected the following:

First Award - Spring Branch AV Club yearbook, Houston, TX.

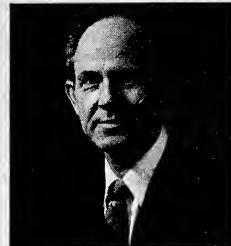
Second Award - The First AVS of Denton yearbook, Denton, TX.

Third Award - Jefferson AV Association yearbook, Metairie, LA.

Fourth Award - First Austin AVS yearbook, Austin, TX.

There were three magazines, nine newsletters, and 47 yearbooks entered, and all who entered are to be congratulated. Also, to the judges who participated in the judging and selection of the winners, goes my sincere appreciation on behalf of the Publications Committee and AVSA.

**Look For The
New Supplements
In Upcoming Issues
of the
African Violet Magazine.**



YOUR LIBRARY

L. T. Ozio, Jr.
1009 Ditch Avenue
Morgan City, LA 70380

It was truly a "Grand Reunion in Texas with Violets" when the 1988 AVSA Convention and Show was held in Dallas. Those Texans surely know how to show their friends and neighbors a good time. Did you ever see so many beautiful plants as were entered in the horticulture division? What a job the poor judges must have had trying to decide upon the best ones in the show. And the number of original and distinctive entries in the design division was overwhelming. The designers showed us how easy it was for them to interpret the many delightfully Texas themes offered in the show schedule. The "Grand Reunion" permitted all of us to get together and visit with our many violet friends from other areas and to meet new ones. For sure, we all had a great time.

One of the new programs to be added to our slide program list for this year is the presentation covering the Dallas convention. A number of you who ordered slide programs have asked us to give you some idea as to what is involved in producing a convention show slide program. Perhaps this would be a good time to acquaint you with the activities of the Library Committee at a convention. The Library Committee photography session takes place immediately at the conclusion of the judging which takes place on Friday. With permission we start setting up as early as possible after judging so that we can complete all of our work before the opening of the show to the AVSA Convention registrants.

The volunteer photographers, clerical workers, and runners report to the photography room where assignments are distributed. The photographers, who are some of the best photography hobbyists, have their individual tables at which to work and a clerical worker is assigned to each photographer. You can imagine how important the clerical workers are to the accuracy of the record keeping. The runners, and that's exactly what they do, have the responsibility of taking the individual plants to be photographed from the show room to the photogra-

phy room. The runner stays with this particular plant until it makes its rounds from one photographer to the other until all of the desired photographs are completed. The runner then returns the plant to the show room and takes another plant for its round of exposures. Usually two frames are allotted each plant, at each photographer, before it is returned.

Prior to the photography session a list is made of the plants that are considered as good examples of the high quality plants found at conventions. The volunteer in charge of seeing that the right plants are made available to the runners, removes the plant, its entry card and ribbons, to the designated area from which the plants start their journey through the photography room. This procedure continues until all chosen plants are photographed and returned to the show room. Ordinarily, the photography sessions take from five to six hours, depending upon the number of problems that may arise once we get started.

While the plants are being photographed, another set of volunteers is taking photographs of the many entries in the design division, at their locations in the show room.

Once the photography has been completed, the slides are then processed and the long session of proper selection begins. It is from this final selection that the slide programs emerge. All the while we hope that the finished product will be one of the best we have ever done.

Just a few reminders to call your attention to some very important procedures to follow when you and/or your affiliate decide to reserve a slide program to assist you with your program planning. All of the rules and regulations can be found in this issue and all July issues of the AV magazine. Please read them carefully and follow them so that you will not be disappointed. The cost of the slide programs with cassettes is still \$10.00, while the cost of a slide program without a cassette is \$8.00; prices that are the same as those in effect last year. We want to keep

these prices low and one way to ensure the success of our library program is to pay close attention to the instructions regarding the return of the slide program. We ask that you properly wrap and return the slide program postpaid and insured for \$50 by FIRST CLASS MAIL, immediately after scheduled reserved date. Our Canadian members are asked to return programs postpaid and insured for \$50 by AIR MAIL PARCEL POST. For members in other countries, please return programs postpaid by the safest and most expeditious postal means available.

Why not take some time out right now, while you have your AV magazine handy, and decide on what slide programs and packets you and/or your affiliate might need to add that special "extra" to your programs for the affiliate year.

Many thanks to those of you who take the time to complete the comment sheets and to add your own constructive comments. We appreciate and seek your continued support. Keep your requests for programs coming in. Have a good summer and thanks for your cooperation.

AVSA Library

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR USE OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Library materials are available for use by AVSA members and affiliates in good standing, subject to the following rules and regulations:

REQUEST FOR MATERIALS

Until September 1, 1988, send requests to the Library Committee Assistant, Bob L. Green, 997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955. Include check, payable to AVSA, in the appropriate amount. After September 1, 1988, send your request to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704. Your check, made payable to AVSA, in the appropriate amount, must be included.

SLIDE PROGRAMS

1. Make request for reservation three (3) months in advance of date desired, with the following information:

Name and address of person to whom slide program is to be mailed.

Name of the affiliate organization, if program is to be shown to an organization.

Give first, second, and third choices of slide programs for each reservation date.

2. Slide programs must be properly wrapped and returned postpaid and insured for \$50 by FIRST CLASS MAIL immediately after scheduled reserved date. The insurance will add \$1.10 to the first-class postage, but the cost of programs (see below) has been reduced to accommodate the additional fee

for insurance. DO NOT RETURN BY UPS. *For Canadian members:* Please return programs postpaid and insured for \$50 by AIR MAIL PARCEL POST. *For members in other countries:* Please return programs postpaid by the safest and most expeditious postal means available. A \$5.00 PENALTY WILL BE ASSESSED FOR ANY SLIDE PROGRAM NOT POSTMARKED WITHIN FOUR (4) DAYS AFTER SCHEDULED RESERVED DATE.

3. Special requests for two or more slide programs for the same date may be made and will be filled whenever possible, but such requests are not encouraged because of the great demand for slide programs and the limited numbers available.

4. Cost of slide program with cassette is \$10.00; and cost of slide program without cassette is \$8.00. Only those slide programs in the descriptive list with a "(C)" after the titles have cassettes. Those programs may be reserved with or without the cassettes.

PACKETS

1. Packets are loaned for a period of one month, as available.

2. Requests for two or more packets will be filled whenever possible.

3. Packets must be returned postpaid by FIRST, THIRD, or FOURTH CLASS MAIL.

4. Cost of each packet is \$2.00, and must be paid by check to AVSA at time of request.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SLIDE PROGRAMS

"AFRICAN VIOLETS IN ARTISTIC DESIGNS" (60 slides) A collection of arrangements and artistic plantings using a Madonna or other accessory to enhance the design or help express the mood or theme of a class. Most slides are blue ribbon winners from shows. An old, but good program. Not for the advanced designer.

"AFRICAN VIOLET PESTS" (C) (52 slides) A short, succinct program by Dr. Charles L. Cole, with vivid illustrations of the common African violet pests.

"AFRICAN VIOLETS, HOLLYWOOD STYLE" (C) (80 slides) The best of the winners at the 1985 Convention Show, "Let Us Entertain You," held in Los Angeles.

"DESIGNS FROM OUR CHILDHOOD FANTASIES" (C) (64 slides) The beautiful design entries from the memorable AVSA Convention Show, "A Childhood Fantasy," held in Philadelphia in 1984. Includes many instructional comments.

"FANTASIA" (C) (99 slides) The 1985/1986 introductions compiled by "Sundown" Pittman.

"GESNERIAD FAVORITES" (C) (75 slides) A program donated to the AVSA Library by the Houston Gesneriad Society. It contains many beautiful plants, with excellent culture and propagation information.

"A GRAND REUNION" (C) (80 slides) From the big city of Dallas comes the best of the beautiful award-winning plants and designs which were exhibited at the 1988 convention/show. (Available October 1.)

"MEET THE FAMILY" (C) (60 slides) A vivid look at some of the other members of the gesneriad family, compiled and narrated by Margaret Waguestack of Harahan, LA. An informative program for those who want to broaden their growing horizons or for those who just want to "meet the family."

"MULTIPLYING SAINTPAULIAS" (65 slides) This program covers propagation by leaf cutting, division, seeds, and grafting. Slides show how to produce and plant seeds to the development of a small potted plant. Not for advanced growers.

"NEW RAYS OF HOPE" (C) (80 slides) This program offers the newest introductions from our hybridizers and commercial growers. Compiled and narrated by Ray "Sundown" Pittman, this program offers many "must have" plants for your wish list.

(Available October 1.)

"ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIALS" (C) (80 slides) The *very latest* "specials" from our hybridizers and commercial growers, as compiled and narrated by "Sundown" Pittman, Hortense's "silent" partner. Perfect for making up your "wish" list.

"PHILLY FANTASY" (C) (80 slides) Prize winning African violets and related plants in all their glory at the 1984 AVSA Convention Show in Philadelphia. No design entries are included, but may be viewed in the slide program, "DESIGNS FROM OUR CHILDHOOD FANTASIES."

"SET THE SCENE WITH DESIGNS" (C) (60 slides) A stunning collection of the best designs entered in the 1985 Los Angeles Convention Show. Not a "how-to" program, but one that will entertain and stimulate the viewer with designs of distinction, creativity, and originality.

"SHOW OFF YOUR VIOLETS" (70 slides) A program showing many ways to use African violets for home decoration, party favors, and table arrangements.

"STARS OF THE NORTH" (C) (80 slides) The beautiful award winners at the 1986 convention show held in St. Paul, MN. You'll really "see stars" when viewing this one.

"THE AFRICAN VIOLET PLANT" (77 slides) Learn to identify the variety of leaf types of the African violet, the diseases that affect the leaf, and the blossom colors and types with this program.

"THE FLORIDA EXPERIENCE" (C) (80 slides) The best of the 1987 convention/show held in Orlando, in the beautiful sunshine state of Florida. You will really enjoy "experiencing" (or reexperiencing) the many lovely plants and designs which were on display in the immense showroom.

"THE MAGIC SHOW" (C) (80 slides) The 1986/1987 "magical" varieties from our hybridizers and commercial growers, as compiled and narrated by Hortense's honey, "Sundown" Pittman.

"THE PITTMAN WAY OF GROWING VIOLETS" (C) (84 slides) A step-by-step visual program on growing and grooming miniature and semiminiature African violets, by one of our most notable hybridizers, Hortense Pittman. You'll learn a lot and see many of Hortense's Honeys in this program.

"THE SANTPAULIA SPECIES" (C) (79 slides) A comprehensive, educational workshop type program not intended solely for entertainment. Very

thorough and technical. Neva Anderson contributed several years of work to produce the best program of its kind.

"VIOLET TROUBLES" (63 slides) Pests, diseases, and results of poor culture are discussed in this program. An old but good basic program.

"VIOLETS AND MORE VIOLETS" (79 slides) A basic lesson for beginners showing how to set leaves, separate baby plants from the mother leaf, and divide a multiple crown plant. Also includes suggestions on potting, repotting a large plant, and way to treat a necky plant. Not for advanced growers.

"WHAT'S NEW FOR '84-'85?" (C) (99 slides) The best of the 1984/1985 introductions, compiled by "Sundown" Pittman.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF PACKETS

JUST FOR FUN PACKET: "A Violet Carol" Christmas skit in one act. A fun way to celebrate the holidays with a skit performed by your club members. This is an original skit written by Kent Stork of Kent's Flowers, Arlington, NE, and donated to the AVSA Library.

NEWSLETTER/MAGAZINE PACKET: This packet contains one sample from each entry exhibited at convention. Editors who wish to browse through other publications are urged to order this packet. Or, anyone desiring to start a newsletter or magazine would find this packet helpful. Includes a point score sheet on how the publications are judged.

PROGRAM PLANNING PACKET: Suggestions to help a program chairman or committee plan the programs for a club's activities.

SHOW SCHEDULES PACKET: Show schedules of African violet shows from different sections of the country. Excellent for new ideas, and those clubs planning their first shows.

YEARBOOK COLLECTION PACKET: This packet contains 12 yearbooks from various affiliate clubs. It contains one or more of the top prize winners from recent AVSA convention competition. Especially recommended for clubs producing their first yearbook, and for those interested in submitting their yearbooks for competition. Includes point score sheets on how the yearbooks were judged.

'The Jesmond' Proves Caring Can Make A Difference

(Editor's Note: I received the following letter and photograph and decided to present it exactly as it was written — just showing another way one person can make quite a difference in "spreading the word" about our African violets.)

Dear Jane,

A little over a year ago I started an African violet "club" at The Jesmond, a nursing home here in Nahant, Massachusetts. I set up an 8-foot double bulb fixture, on a timer, over the buffet in the community room, and started bringing in violets. I go to the nursing home every three weeks, and spend an hour or so grooming the plants, talking to the women about them, etc. Other than that, the plants get no real care, although they do get plenty of admiration. The plants are all set up with wicks and reservoirs, with a constant feed of Peters 12-36-14. When I do my thing every three weeks I leach with plain water, and generally groom the plants. Pam Noyes, the truly amazing woman who is the social



African violets being grown at The Jesmond Nursing Home in Nahant, Massachusetts.

activities director there, keeps the reservoirs and trays filled with water.

Last year at the Bay State AVS annual show, we organized a chair car (a lot of the women are in wheelchairs) and seven of the club members went to see the show. After the show we talked about how maybe we could enter Bay State the following year. I figured we could surely get a ribbon or two. So, over the past year at The Jesmond I have been, in addition to the regular routine of bringing in new plants for the residents who are bedridden, repotting old plants from upstairs, and preparing the plants for show. This, of course, included disbudding — believe me, it was a chore explaining to them why I kept pulling off the buds before they bloomed.

Well, this is the result. Unfortunately, I sort of misjudged the timing, and didn't realize how warm (and how constantly warm) the nursing home is kept. Therefore, the plants were ready a week or so before the show, but that's a problem with all violet growers.

I'm not bragging, but these were some of the best plants I have ever grown. The Peppermint Fling was really fantastic and the Ballet Lisa was better than any I have ever seen.

Well, we entered six plants at the Bay State AVS show. They do not accept clubs as members, so we had Pam Noyes join Bay State. (She is also a member of AVSA, c/o Jesmond Nursing Home.) We entered Dancin' Trail, Rhapsody Mars, The King and a collection comprised of Ballet Lisa, Port Tierra and Peppermint Fling. We won six blue ribbons, and the collection won second best collection (there were only two collections), which meant a rosette.

In addition, one of the Jesmond residents, Mildred Bailey, age 85, won her own blue ribbon for her Rhapsody Mars, that was grown on the windowsill, and a special award for best in class (non-members).

I hope that maybe we can share this experience with some other violet folks, and perhaps get some other "clubs" like this going in other nursing homes. With wick watering it really is so simple, and it brings so much pleasure to the women. It also brings me a lot of pleasure, knowing that I can share with them through violets, and make their lives a little happier and more beautiful. When I first started there, a lot of the women had violets that had been given to them years ago, and that were doggedly holding on on their windowsills, having never been

fed or repotted. I started by either fixing their plants, or giving them new ones, all set up for wicking. One woman got so mad at me for denecing her plant and taking off the lone struggling bud stem, that she didn't come to the club meeting for two months. However, when she did return, she brought the plant with her, full of blooms, and she has been a regular attendee since then.

Pam and her daughter brought six of the women out to see the show and they were thrilled with their plants. I have their visit on video tape and it is a real classic.

Again, violets came through for us all.

Good growing,

David A. Lass

Nahant, Massachusetts

AVSA Certificates Of Appreciation

Bob L. Green
Chairman, Publications Committee

Members of the Publications Committee and the Board of Directors voted for the most outstanding articles published in the African Violet Magazine during the past year. The winning authors were presented with certificates of appreciation and free one-year AVSA memberships to be given to non-AVSA members of their choice at the Dallas Convention. The winning authors and their articles are:

Shirley R. Jeffrey for the article, "Creative Control of Creepers."

Marie Burns for the article, "The Best in Show Experience."

Lynda J. Grybko for the article, "The Fine Art of Violetry - Tips and Techniques for Growing, Showing and Sharing, Part I."

Raymond Dooley for the article, "Let's Talk Dirt or the Evolution of a Soil Mix."

Betty Tapping for the article, "In Search of Excellence, Part II, the Other Gesneriads."

Chisako Kisamore for the article, "The Japanese Technique for Growing African Violet Trailers."

Heather Gladney for the articles, "Inorganic Mix Components" and "Soil Requirements for African Violets."

Seven AVSA Members Receive Honorary Awards In Dallas

Celine Chase, Awards Chairman

One-Year Honorary Memberships were awarded to seven AVSA members at the 1988 Dallas Convention.

Receiving the awards were:

MR. BOB L. GREEN of Rockledge, FL, in recognition for his services as show chairman for the AVSA convention held in Florida, 1987. He has been speaker for many workshops at convention, especially on design. Bob is a Life Member of AVSA, a Senior Judge & Teacher, former AVSA Director, and Chairman of the Publications Committee. For many years Bob wrote the Beginner's Column for the African Violet Magazine. He received the Hudson Memorial Award for Affiliate Chapter Leadership in 1987.

MRS. J. K. (ANNE) JANTZEN of Mountain View, CA, in recognition of her support to AVSA, her local affiliate, judges council and Northern CA Council. Anne has been a member of AVSA and South Bay AVS since 1974. She is a Life Member and Senior Judge, and has served two terms as Director of AVSA. Anne is the new Chairman of the Awards Committee.

LAURENE JONES of Annandale, VA, in recognition of her support of AVSA through her societies, Old Dominion AVS and Potomac Council of AV Judges. Laurene became a member of AVSA in 1973. She is a Life Member, Senior Judge & Teacher, member of the Master Variety List Committee and works with the Library Committee at conventions. She gives many programs on design and gesneriads.

MRS. JOHN (RUTH) McCOY of Galt, CA, in recognition of her support of AVSA for many years. Ruth (better known as Jo) has been a Life Member of AVSA since 1962 and is a Master Judge and Teacher. Jo has formed many societies that have joined AVSA. She has written a book on design, "Floral Design Concepts," which helps many beginners, and gives programs. She received the Ruth Carey Award in 1979.

BEVERLY PROMERSBERGER of Annandale, VA, in recognition for teaching the culture of the African violet on a regular basis at the Green Horticulture Center in Alexandria, VA. Beverly has been a member of AVSA since 1978. She is an Advanced Judge, and member of the Master Variety List and Membership & Promotion committees. She is also a member of Old Dominion AVS and the Potomac Council of AV Judges.

MR. & MRS. JAMES B. WHITAKER of Merritt Island, FL, in recognition of their long, tiring hours as Co-Chairmen for the Florida AVSA Convention, 1987. Known to their friends as Jim and DoDe, they have been members of AVSA for many years. In 1975 they became Commercial Members. DoDe is a Senior Judge, served as Convention Program Chairman and has been Convention Director since 1986. She received the One-Year Honorary Membership Award in 1984.

Continuing Service Award Presented

*Celine Chase
Awards Chairman*

Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Begin of Long Beach, NY, is recognized for her many years of continued service to the African Violet Society of America, Inc.

Ellie, better known as the "Mini-Mam," is Chairman of the Miniature and Semiminiature Cultivar Committee. She has compiled a book on these plants and keeps you informed of the winners in the shows.

Locally, she belongs to the NY State AVS, Long Island AVS and Judges Council of NY State. For AVSA she has served as Director, Vice Chairman of the New York AVSA Convention and Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Ellie is a Life Member, Master Judge & Teacher. She received the One-Year Honorary Membership Award in 1973 and a Continuing Service Award in 1979.

And The Winners Are ...

The AVSA Silver Cup and Rosette for best registered variety went to **Richard Nicholas** of San Antonio, TX for Fredette's Strawberry Ripple.' Richard also won the Jan Lakey Award, a self-watering pot, Ness's Hey Jude, the First AVS of Wichita Falls Award, \$10, Nortex's Twilight Haven, the Pomona Valley AVS Award, \$10, Nortex's Valentine Haven, the Union County Chapter of AVSA Award, \$10, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, rosette, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration and the Winston Smith Award, \$25, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration.

Mrs. Linda Bjorkman of Broken Arrow, OK took the Award of Merit Rosette and \$15 for second best registered variety with Granger's Desert Dawn. She also won the Gold Rosette for best collection and the Fort Worth AVS Award, \$60, with Granger's Desert Dawn, Brazos Stormy Skies and Angel Fire, the Diane Mugovero Award, china bell, the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, rosette, and the Susan Roberts Award, hand-painted plate, Night Rider, the Keystone AVS Award, \$10, Rob's Soliloquy, the Ovella Ruth Hall Award (in honor of her mother), \$15, and the Paumanok AVS Award, \$10, Lucky Lass, the Sweet Vi-O-Lets Award, \$10, Sweetone, the Hortense & Sundown Pittman Award, \$10, Magic Blue, the Amy and Irene Award, \$10, ACA's Wackie Jackie, the Tampa AVS Award, \$10, and the AV Association of Gardeners Award, \$25, Sport of Sparky.

The Honorable Mention Rosette and \$10 for third best variety went to **Mary Nell Klimek** of Devol, OK, with Bertha. Mary Nell also won the New York City AVS Award, \$10, and the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, hand-painted china plate, with Bertha. In addition, she won the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, hand-painted plate for best Alpha Charlie.

Hector Becerra, Jr. of San Antonio, TX won the Purple Rosette for second best collection and the AV Study Club of Houston Award, \$50, with Teen Craze, Little Katherine and Precious Pink. Hector also won the Betty Bryant Award, \$5, Cairo Cutie,

the Ruth Wheeler Award, \$10, Snow Cone, the Saintpaulia Society Award, \$10, and the St. Louis AV Judges Council Award, \$15, Everdina, the Spring Branch AV Club Award, \$10, Bob's Blue Devil, and the Hortense and Sundown Pittman Award, \$10, Precious Pink.

The Silver Cup and Rosette for best entry in the design division was won by **Bob Green** of Rockledge, FL. Bob also won the Mrs. Duke Bethune Award, \$10, "TV's Dallas," the Mr. and Mrs. Joe Quicksall Award, \$10, "Mesquite Rodeo," the AVS of Minnesota Award, \$25, the Quad Cities AVS Award, \$25, "Amtrack," the Missouri Valley AV Council Award, \$10, "Spindletop," the Albuquerque AVC Award, \$15, "Texas Wildlife Refuge," the AVS of Staten Island Award, \$10, "Old City Park," the Northern CA Council Award, \$25, the Mildred Greene Award, hand-painted china clock, "Double Exposure," the Tri-State AV Council Award, \$25, and the Lower Bucks County AVC Award, Miksa bone china cake plate.

Taking seven awards was **Patricia Champaigne** of Spring, TX with AVSA Judges Council of Northern CA Award, \$25, for third best collection, Tiger Eyes, Beginner's Luck and Sea Princess, the AVS of Jacksonville Award, \$15, and the Hans and Everdina Inpijn Award, \$10, Mickey Mouse, the AVS of Greater Kansas City Award, \$10, the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, rosette, and the Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses Award, \$10, Toy Castle, the Bob L. Green Award, \$25, Beginner's Luck.

Also winning seven awards was **Sue Hill** of Independence, MO with Granger Gardens Award, \$25, Fantasy Sensation, the Emilie Savage Award, \$10, Emilie Savage, the Baltimore AVC Award, \$15, Wee Willie Winkie, the Columbus AVS Award, \$10, the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, rosette, the AV Council of Southern CA Award, \$25, Bogeyman, and the Missouri Valley AV Council Award, \$10, W. Savage Beauty.

Winning three awards each were **Ann Miller** of Spring, TX with the Julia Fladt Award, \$10, Harbor

Blue, the NASA Area AVS Award, \$25, "Japanese Garden," the Hill Country AVS Award, \$15, "Another Big Time in Texas"; and Mrs. Robert Early of Fort Worth, TX with the Tampa AVS Award, \$10, and the Mr. & Mrs. L. T. Ozio, Jr. Award, \$10, Columnea Snake Charmer, and the Mr. & Mrs. L. T. Ozio, Jr. Award, \$10, Nautilocalyx grandilifer; and Ethel Campbell of Springfield, MO with the AVS of Minnesota Award, \$15, "Palmetto State Park," the Nite Bloomers AVS Award, \$25, and the Union County Chapter of AVSA Award, \$10, "Fiesta Time."

Those winning two awards were: Nancy Hill of Dallas with Cen-Tex Rainbow AVC Award, \$10, Outrage, and the Grace Davis Award, hand-painted plate, Dallas; Wayne Geeslin of Houston with the Granada Hills AVS Award, \$15, and the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, rosette, Blue Excitement; P. Harris of Baton Rouge, LA with the Central Texas Judges Council Award, \$10, Magnolia, and the Tampa AVS Award, \$10, Peach Brandy; Martha Turner of Dallas, TX with the Fort Worth AVS Award, \$10, Burgundy Lace, and the Betty Bryant Award, \$5, Texas Hotshot; D. McClain of Dallas, TX with the Ruth Wheeler Award, \$15, Plain Jane, and the Betty Bryant Award, \$5, Blackie Bryant; Mary Stallings of Fort Worth, TX with the Alpha AVS Award, hand-painted plate, Alpha Gracie, and the Baltimore AVC Award, \$10, "Reunion Tower"; Douglas Gregory of San Antonio, TX with the First Austin AVS Award, \$10, Little Katherine, and the Wilson's Violet House Award, \$10, Precious Pink; C. Zanewyck of Fort Worth, TX with the San Antonio AV Council Award, \$10, Casper Ghost, and the Cathy Scheel, Crafty Cathy Award, self-watering pots, Snuggles; Kim Papke of Arlington, TX with the Mary Alice Barta Award, \$10, and the Mid-America AVS Award, \$10, Pay Dirt; M. W. Rhodes of Manchaca, TX with the Martha Turner Award, \$15, and the Travis' Violets Award, \$15, Brazos Belle; James Curtis of Schertz, TX with the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, rosette, and the Lake-shore AVS Award, \$25, Dancin' Trail; G. McDonald of Ripley, TN with the Libby Watkins Award, \$5, and the Alpha AVS Award, S. shumensis.

Winning one award each were: N. Sanchez of Denham Springs, LA with the Mary Walbrick Award, \$10, Melodie Sheila; R. D. Early of Fort Worth, TX with the AVS of San Francisco Award,

\$10, Kiwi Dazzler; Glendel Dixon of Coppell, TX with the Alpha AVS of Dallas Award, hand-painted china plate, Greg; M. Geissler of Houston, TX with the Mrs. Fred C. Young Award, \$25, Frances Young; Sophie Cole of Baton Rouge, LA with the Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Re Award, \$10, Fogbound; J. Bruhl of Austin, TX with the Zanobia Award, hand-painted violet plate, Fredette's Daydream; J. Quicksall of Garland, TX with the Betty Bryant Award, \$10, Dallas Doozie; Anne Nicholas of San Antonio, TX with the Central Florida AVS Award, \$15, Brazos Stormy Skies; Ann Swift of Upland, CA with the Betty Bryant Award, \$5, Ann; Ann Trussell of Fort Worth, TX with the Winston Smith Award, \$25, Wrangler's Canyon Echoes; V. Whitfield of Dallas with the Winston Smith Award, \$25, Wrangler's Jealous Heart; James Swift of Niagara Falls, NY with the Royal Oak Nursery Award, \$15, Little Rose Quartz; E. Salamanowicz of Calgary, Alberta, Canada with the New York State AVS Award, \$10, Little Jim; Ray Dooley of New York City with the Hortense and Sundown Pittman Award, \$10, Winnergreen; B. Johnson of San Antonio, TX with the Humboldt County AVS Award, \$10, Memory Trail; Bev Promersberger of Annandale, VA with the Cathy Scheel, Crafty Cathy Award, self-watering pots, Indian Trail; Anna Padgett of Arlington, TX with the Tampa AVS Award, \$10, S. puscilla; Bill Foster of Mesquite, TX with the Celine Chase Award, \$10, Sinningia mini glox; Dea V. Johnson of San Antonio, TX with the Mr. and Mrs. John Janson Award, \$10, "Hill Country"; Betty Lou Lages of Ellicott City, MD with the Joan Halford Award, \$10, "Six Flags Over Texas"; and Jeanne Cotton of Tulsa, OK with the Albuquerque AVC Award, \$10, "Aquarena Springs."

A Mini Museum

Kent Stork

Many violet fanciers have been captured by the charms of miniature African violets. But those who are interested in miniatures of all kinds, and who will be attending the AVSA convention in Kansas City, Missouri, May 22-28, 1989, will wish to plan a visit to the Miniature Museum of Kansas City.

One of only three museums of its kind in the country, it houses a collection of miniatures which are perfect in scale and historically correct in detail, as well as antique toys, doll houses and furnishings.



Morea Surf

Barbara Elkin

Jolene



Bronze Medals For Horticultural Achievement

Celine Chase, Awards Chairman

Gordon Boone of Oklahoma

Gordon Boone of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma has been growing flowers since the age of 12. His mother grew flowers, both inside and outside, and his father worked in a nursery. Gordon started hybridizing geraniums, but after meeting Ernest Fisher of Canada, who hybridized African violets, he switched.

Gordon has hybridized many beautiful varieties

and is currently working for hybrids that will tolerate heat and mildew. From some 7,000 seedlings a year, he holds back about 16 for future testing to have them meet with his standards.

Just a few of his well-known hybrids are: Cherry Cola, Heirloom, Velvet Crush and Sapphire Halo. Some of his varieties are registered and more will be registered in the near future.

Hermann Holtkamp, Sr. of Germany

Hermann Holtkamp, Sr., (died February 24, 1988) is recognized as the father of today's African violet. His innovations ripple throughout the entire African violet world. With his great vision, he pictured *Saintpaulia ionantha* as the potplant of the future.

Hermann Sr. spent the greatest part of the past 50 years in research and development of the African violet and laid the foundation for the well-known Rhapsodie and Optimara varieties.

His biggest step forward in development occurred in the late 1950s when his research created the first non-dropping violet blossom. This creation is the foundation of today's violet.

Hermann Sr. has received many international medals and awards, including the highest possible, the Georg-Ahrends Gedächtnis-Münze. This award recognizes the greatest achievements in research and development in the horticultural field.

“E” Hansen Awarded AVSA Honorary Life Membership

Mrs. H. N. “E” Hansen of Jenkintown, PA has received the AVSA Honorary Life Membership Award at the 1988 Dallas Convention.

“E” has been a member of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., since 1960. During this time she has promoted new members for AVSA as well as for her local society, the AVS of Philadelphia. “E” has been a member of all committees in her society, including president. She has served as chairman on show committees and is always ready to help where needed.

“E” has attended many conventions and would attend workshops, taking back any information that

might help the members who could not attend. For the past 15 years she has been a member of the AVSA Board. As an elected officer, she served as Director and Recording Secretary. She has served on the Membership and Promotion, Standing Rules, Shows and Judges, Yearbook, Judges and Exhibitors committees and was Chairman of the Publications Committee for many years. She resigned from this committee in 1987.

“E” is a Life Member, Master Judge and Teacher and received the One-Year Honorary Membership Award in 1976 and the Continuing Service Award in 1982.

AVSA HALL OF FAME for 1988

Celine Chase, Awards Chairman



Grace Foote



Gus Becker

Mrs. Henry P. Foote, Port Arthur, Texas, better known as "Gracie," was employed as editor of the African Violet Magazine on July 14, 1963 and was introduced to the Board of Directors at the convention in Dallas in April 1965.

As editor of the African Violet Magazine for more than 20 years, Grace gave generously of her time, not only as editor, but in many facets of the society. She always gave a full report on the magazine at all board meetings. Her easy manner of correcting mistakes and quick apology was commendable. Her unusual cooperation with all contributors to the magazine and offer of help added much to her outstanding editorship.

Grace was editor when color was introduced to the inside of the magazine and encouraged commercial growers to send in slides of their newest cultivars. Grace received the One-Year Honorary Membership Award in 1966, Continuing Service Award in 1976, Honorary Life Award in 1982 and the Distinguished Service Award in 1986. She became Editor Emeritus in 1985.

AVSA members will always remember her column, "A Foote on the Violet Path," which was a delightful, informative, individual way of keeping the membership informed of timely problems.

Gus Becker, Beaumont, Texas, was engaged by the African Violet Society of America, Inc., on July 14, 1963 as printer of the magazine.

For almost 25 years Gus served the society in this capacity. He was always ready and willing to support AVSA to improve the magazine and through his skillful organization, the magazine was always published on time.

Gus attended conventions and gave reports and costs at the yearly and special board meetings.

He was elected to the board of directors, serving from 1980 to 1983 and received the One-Year Honorary Membership Award in 1981.

He has given generously of his time and self to support the board and society members when help was needed.

Society members will never forget the slide programs he gave on hospitality night at conventions.

He was also instrumental in promoting a 40th anniversary book, which is a milestone in the history of AVSA.

Gus was recently awarded the Religious Heritage of America Award in the business and professional category, chosen from some 60 candidates in the United States.



Rob's Romancer

Ralph Robinson

Rob's Shadow Magic



Mabel & Glenn Hudson Memorial Award For Affiliated Leadership

*Celine Chase
Awards Chairman*

Mr. Raymond J. Dooley of New York City was presented the Mabel and Glenn Hudson Memorial Award for Affiliated Chapter Leadership.

Raymond is no stranger to African violet people and has been a member of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., approximately 21 years. He is a Life Member, Senior Judge and Teacher and a new Director of AVSA. He attends conventions regularly.

Raymond is a member of AVS of Staten Island, New York City AVS, New York State AVS, New York State Judges Council, Tri-State AV Council and the New Jersey Judges Council. He has held offices of first and second vice president, president and director in these societies. He has been show chairman and has held other chairmanships pertain-

ing to shows, usually in design.

Raymond became interested in African violets when he was 12 years old. Mabel and Glenn Hudson helped him get his start. He still grows some of the species that Mabel gave him. Having grown many prize-winning violets, he lectures on horticulture of the African violet for many affiliate chapters. He is also in demand for programs pertaining to design sections in shows, traveling all over the eastern part of the United States.

Raymond has been the speaker on design at AVSA conventions on many occasions. He has taught many people how to grow better show plants and has certainly promoted the desire for many members to become interested and enter the design classes.

Commercial Display Table Winners At Dallas Convention

In the Commercial Display Table Division, at the AVSA Dallas Convention in April 1988, Hortense's African Violets of San Antonio, TX won the 10" Silver Bowl, the AVSA Blue Rosette for horticultural perfection, the First Nighter AVS of Dallas Award, \$200, and the New York State AVS Award of Silver.

Kent's Flowers of Arlington, NE won the 8" Silver bowl for second best display table, the AVSA

Red Rosette and the First AVS of Dallas Award of \$150.

The 6" Silver bowl for third best display table was won by African Violets by Grace of Garland, TX. Grace also won the AVSA White Rosette and the North Texas AV Judges Council Award of \$100.

Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses of Dolgeville, NY won the Honorable Mention Rosette and the First AVS of Dallas Award of \$50.

**More Information on the Commercial Awards
at the Dallas Convention
Will Appear in the September issue
of the African Violet Magazine**

Get Ready, Get SetGrow!

Summering your African Violets

Lynda J. Grybko

Violets tend to like hot, muggy summer days about as much as YOU do! With appropriate care, they will not "wilt" anymore than we actually do, although in all probability, they will not grow a great deal either. This time of year, we must look for growing things outdoors! (And violets do NOT like to be put outdoors during the summer.) Here's how to "summer" your indoor friends with the least casualties:

Standards

Pot up your "starter plants"

1. Cut up filters for pot-bottoms and wicks (if desired). "Y" shaped wicks, with "Y" top beneath root-ball work best for me. *Materials: old pantyhose*

2. Use clean, sanitized pots of correct size (4" pots for 6-8" starter plants in 2-1/2" pots. Can use 3" pots for "compact standards" or 5" pots for "large standards." Pots must be green to show, and "squatty pots" work best for violets and their shallow root system.) *Materials: Physan 20 or Clorox for sanitizing. Pots: 3", 4", 5"*

3. Pot up using following procedure:

Insert wick and filter in new pot.

Fill 1/3 full with new soil.

Remove plant from old 2-1/2" pot.

Use old pot as "mold" in new pot, filling with soil around "mold" and to top of it. (Barely damp soil works most easily.)

Remove baby leaves, blossoms and bud stalks.

"Pot up"

Water carefully.

Put on collar.

Set on wick pot.

Label your plant.

Materials: soil (I use 1 part each: perlite, Terre-Lite, Peat-Lite) collars, wickpots, small paring knife, paintbrush (to poke plant out of pot) pencil, labels, pot with tepid water plus weak fertilizer.

Tear down older plants

1. Remove old, malformed or marred leaves &

suckers (Pot up healthy leaves or suckers for babies next year.) *Materials: Same as needed for 1, 2, 3 above, plus baby food jars for starting leaves (if you start in water).*

2. If "necky," scrape neck gently to remove scale.

3. Loosen root ball and discard as much "old" soil as practical to make room for fresh soil. If necessary, to bury "neck," remove some or all of root ball. Remember to remove a corresponding amount of foliage when removing roots. (Reduced root systems will only support a reduced crown.)

4. Repot in same size (i.e., 3", 4", 5") pot. Water carefully, put on collar, set on wick pot, label.

Semiminis and Minis

Use same procedure for tearing down older (standard) plants as most minis and many semiminis spend their entire "lives" in 2-1/4 - 2-1/2" pots. Tip: Soda cans make great wick "pots" for minis and lift them up so they are not sheltered by the standards.

Trailers

Trailers (both standard and mini) often get very "necky." They lose their "lower" leaves, creating a very open center with leaves only on the trailing ends. New, fresh leaves will NOT re-grow on these "necks"; therefore, the only remedy is to cut up your trailers into several cuttings, as follows:

(Materials: sharp knife, filters, wicks, pots, foil, water jar, water & fertilizer, pencil)

1. With a sharp knife, cut off all healthy trailer "crowns," removing all older leaves and leaving only new, young leaves and approximately 3/4-1" "bare neck." Discard entire root ball.

2. Gently scrape any scale from "neck" with knife.

3. Root either in water: fill small jar (baby food is ideal) with tepid water (I also add a bit of fertilizer); cover tightly with aluminum foil; poke hole in center of foil with pencil; insert neck of trailer, making sure it is into the water. Label. OR, root in soil: fill pot (2-1/2"), or if crown is quite large, use a

4") with filter, wick, soil. Use pencil to make hole in center of soil. Set neck in. Water gently. Keep moist, but not wet.

4. When roots are formed in water, pot up when they are 1/2" long.

5. Do not put on wick pots until there is evidence that the plant is well rooted and starting to grow again. Prior to this stage, it will not be able to remove water from the soil quickly enough, if on a wick, and will "drown" and rot.

Tips For Summer Growing

Now that your plants are all prepared for the summer, keep in mind the following hints to help them:

Don't allow your plants to dry out enough to wilt, but avoid standing water. Wick pots or capillary matting (an old terry towel works fine) are helpful.

Maintain good ventilation ... a ceiling fan is ideal, but if unavailable, just don't crowd your plants. Leaves will distort and mildew more easily if they are touching their neighbors.

Disbudding during the summer is very helpful; it channels all your plant's maintenance energy into the leaves themselves; also, blossoms mildew most easily in summer.

Be vigilant about summer sucker control; suckers "crowd" plants.

Promptly remove all yellowing foliage (to minimize conditions for mildew).

Don't go from "outdoor gardens" to your "indoor gardens"! Wash up and change clothes first.

Treat pests and mildew promptly. Consult a good book or a friend for remedies.

Shop Til You Drop

Kent Stork

Dedicated and not-so-dedicated shoppers alike will be delighted at the opportunities awaiting them in Kansas City when they attend the AVSA convention, May 22-28, 1989. Three levels of fabulous shopping are connected directly to the marvelous West Crown Center Hotel. And if you can't find what you want there, step outside and hop aboard the trolley for a ride to the County Club Plaza for still more exciting shopping amid the Spanish-style, outdoor museum-like surroundings. Or check out the Westport district for antiques. You will have a grand time indeed.

A Summer Visit

*Evelyn Stein
22 Westham Green
Richmond, VA 23229*

A phone call last week prompted me to reminisce about the beginnings of my African violet collection. "By the way, how are your African violets," Grete said. Heavy details were in order here since my friend, Grete, is an amateur horticulturist replete with a flower and vegetable garden straight off the cover of "Better Homes and Gardens." I seized this opportunity to tell her the story behind my present plant collection starting from the day when I bought my first standard Optimara, a plant with nice purple flowers, I thought, and going on from there to my first tragedy — its drowning from daily watering. Wherever had I read that African violets should be watered everyday? Luckily, I was able to save one leaf and start a new generation (now being carefully watered).

The next plant venture was a hardy, pink, double flowered standard (I have to laugh now when I realize how hardy it really was). This poor thing became the victim of my newly discovered obsession - plant disease. I had read of these dreaded diseases in all the journals — the mites, the blights, the insidious funguses that lurk under the shiny, green leaves. I even wrote to an association in Canada that kindly mailed me a pamphlet containing explicit photos of diseased plants. Yes, I was sure my plant suffered from one of these horrible afflictions but not sure just which one. What to do. What to do. I started with a simple remedy. I began to wash the leaves with soap and water. No, that's no better, I thought. On to the chemicals. Well, between the spraying and the washing my unfortunate plant eventually became the invalid I originally believed it to be. In no time, I was left with a beautiful, empty ceramic pot. I really had the guilty now with two dead plants on my conscience. Plant killer!

My next decision was the turning point in my collecting career. I decided that I was unable to comprehend large foliage. Therefore, my best bet would be for me to get into the mini and semimini class. My first acquisition turned out to be a white, semimini Optimara I bought at Sears. My future now

began to brighten. It seemed that no matter what mistakes I made with this plant it just sat there happily growing and blooming. Encouraged, I bought several other minis which also seemed to survive (even thrive) under my errors. And so I come to today, presently owning a few shelves of moderately acceptable African violets.

"How are your African violets," Grete said, "I'd like to take a look at them next week." Panic lights flashed through my brain! A visit from this expert, this plant mavin, who had just casually spoken to me about the flora and fauna of her recent trip to Death Valley; she, who had wandered through the "pine barrens" of New Jersey; searched for the rare Bristlecone Pine in the mountains of California. All this was paying us a visit. When I hung up I quickly checked my plant room (1/2 of a wall in my husband's upstairs office). There were a few dead flowers that needed cutting, I saw. I guess the water in the containers could stand a change. Oh, those summer droops! I could brush the leaves. Let's see, I'll just put in a few toothpicks. I'll trim this off...

Next week was here. Walking up the stairs with Grete I commented on the summer heat and its affect on violets (even though my house is air-conditioned), I apologized for the few plants remaining in my collection after some plant cleaning this past spring, and mostly, talked about my amateur approach to gardening. Grete understood. She walked into the room and remarked on the "smiling faces" of

the Pixie Blue trailers on my shelf and even asked for a leaf to take home with her. She walked over to one of my white semiminis and pointed out that some of the blossoms were doubles while others were singles. I honestly had never noticed. She also showed me a quickie way to hybridize with a small artist's brush. It had seemed so much more difficult in books. She asked me about the wicks I used, which are nothing more than light nylon cord, and I told her that many people preferred using pieces of nylon stockings as wicks. I told her the water in my plastic containers lasts for about one month and that it is diluted with fertilizer — more diluted in the blooming season and less diluted during the winter months allowing for stronger plant growth. We talked at some length about violet varieties which eventually brought us back to the history of the African violet and to Baron von Saint Paul himself. She said it would be nice if we could see the original violets that he found in East Africa and be able to compare it with today's varieties.

I realized at this point in the visit how important the observations of an outsider can be to a hobbyist. Conversation between us flourished. You might say that seeds from one mind mixed with seeds from another and blossomed into new ideas.

Now, reflecting on the enriching experience of that day, the debut of my African violet family, I know that I'll be looking forward to our next visit. May the blossoms continue to spring forth!

Serendipity

*Virginia W. Gasper
Cincinnati AVS
646 Evangeline Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45240-3012*

"Serendipity." "It's an ill wind that blows no one good." "All things work together for good to those who love God..." No matter how you say it, my strange and wonderful African violet career proves the truth of these proverbs.

About five years ago, my neighbor called with a note of hysteria in her voice. She was president of our local garden club; it was meeting at her house; and her scheduled speaker was ill! Would I talk about my

basement-full of African violets? Since this was a small group of women I knew, and my violets were blooming, I reasoned that if I gave everyone a violet, they wouldn't care what I said - and apparently they didn't. So far, so good.

A year later they asked me back - this time with enough warning to reserve an African Violet Society slide show - and give away more plants. I was sure that would end my unspectacular plunge into

giving programs. And it would have, except a new club had formed, and they must have heard a rumor about free violets!

"It's going to be in the Activity Room at Winton House," the chairman told me, naming a retirement complex near our home. "We've asked the residents, but we're not sure how many will show up. There will be only a few garden club members - we're having a hard time starting the club." Between us, we decided on 30 at most, and no slides.

The afternoon of the program, my loyal husband helped me cart 45 lovely plants up to the third floor Activity Room, and arrange them on a table. As we rode the elevator up and down, we collected a bevy of residents - all enthralled with the plants, and full of questions. My confidence began to ooze away and I spent much time praying that I would find the words, love and wisdom - and enough plants to go around.

The evening was a complete and utter disaster! It was a classic example of unanswered prayer. When I arrived, there were nearly 40 residents already seated at tables in the huge room. Many were smoking, and the air was already foggy. Some were obviously hearing-impaired, and there was no microphone. Even before the garden club members arrived, a picture-perfect troop of Brownie Girl Scouts filed in - faces shining and uniforms starched. "The garden club is going to sponsor us. We are their guests tonight."

"Oh..."

The club ladies turned out *en masse*. When they straggled in, they were as shocked by the waiting crowd as I was. "Talk a long time - we've got to go out and buy more doughnuts and juice."

I'll never know what I said or who heard it. I only know the residents were thrilled with their plants. Some took extra for missing friends. Weakly I invited the Brownies to my basement for a "hands-on" planting session later in the month so they could each choose their own plant. I arranged for the chairman of the garden club to come by our house in a month and pick up more plants for the members to take home at their next meeting - simply hoping to have some beauties blooming by then. And way down deep in my heart I was asking the Creator of men, women, and violets some very pointed questions...

He answered in His time. I didn't know it, but the club's speaker at their next meeting was Lee Cain, the garden editor of the Cincinnati Post, and herself

an avid supporter of garden clubs. She was so delighted with the African violets that she arranged to come to my house, gasped in delight at the violet room, sent a photographer, and wrote us up in one of her weekly columns.

That launched my "program" reputation. At least twice a year I crawl out of the basement, bleach my grimy hands, don my pink "Gesneriad Lover" tee shirt, and appear at a strange door anywhere in the Cincinnati area with carefully packed boxes of violets and demonstration materials. To compensate for my stage fright and ignorance we have evolved a folder which is given to each participant to take home from the meeting, with growing information and the Society Culture folder.

"Join!" I urge. "All I know I've learned from reading and re-reading the AVS magazines!"

Serendipity!

All because I "failed" so miserably one cold night in January. Go ahead, dear friends. Dare to "fail." If I can do it, so can you. "Nothing ventured, nothing gained." Or the Bible verse I use to start each program - II Corinthians 4:7 "Yet we who have this spiritual treasure are like common clay pots, in order that the supreme power belongs to God, not to us."

Dare to be God's clay pot!

... Growing "Helps" For Beginners from Virginia

*Virginia Gasper
Cincinnati AVS*

Light

African violets do best under cool-white fluorescent tubes, suspended no more than 10 to 12 inches above the leaves, and left on for 12 hours a day. Even a desk lamp or under the counter light will work well. (Set pots on something to lift your plants to the proper level.)

If you depend on natural light, take time to pat yourself on the back. The right location is very important, and it will take some weeks of experimenting to find the right spot for your violets. As the seasons change you will need to adapt to light, temperature, and humidity variations. Get as much

sun as possible *without burning* the leaves. Let your violets talk to you - reaching leaves need more light; shrinking, short stemmed leaves need less.

No Blooms

A lovely plant with no blooms needs slightly more light - just enough to boost it into bloom. Keeping the lowest leaves snapped off at the crown, and removing all suckers will also encourage blooms.

Springtails

These ornery little horrors are very small bugs that resemble lively white or grey threads, about 1/8 inch long, racing around on the outside of the pot.

Calm down! They do not represent instant doom. Actually, they thrive where your growing conditions are perfect. They love the same moisture, rich humus, warmth, and even light, that the African violets do. They eat soil, NOT violets.

Rubbing the pot with soapy water will discourage them, without bothering your plant. I spray the pots

with an insecticide before giving away violets - careful not to spray the plant itself.

Isolation

Keep any new or sick plants by themselves for several weeks to be sure that they are problem free. The world out there is full of nasty things - bugs, fungi, thrips - which can make growing less than fun if your whole group of violets become infected. They *can* be eliminated, but it is discouragingly *hard* to do so. Therefore, prevention is best.

Guard Against -

1. Drafts, or blasts of cold air.
2. Freezing on windowsills at night.
3. Cooking on windowsills in mid-day sun.
4. Not turning plant to encourage lovely round shape.
5. Chilled water. (Use water left inside overnight in a gallon container to allow salts to settle and water temperature to adjust to room temperature.)

Now, go and have FUN!



Mixing Your Soil

or "Don't fall for what they sell you in the store."

I am not sure why the soil sold as African violet soil is so dense and heavy, but it may be that most soil-sellers know that most green-thumbers like to use their own creative talents and nurturing instincts. They must decide to make it a real necessity! I have yet to find any that will make your violet perfectly happy, and some are sure murder, especially to anyone with a tendency to over water.

However, now that I've said that, I admit that I start with a good African violet soil - Baccto, Black Magic, etc. Please avoid some in-house brands, like Frank's. They do not seem to have reliable quality control.

My own recipe is something like this ...

- 1 part African violet soil
- 2 or 3 parts Terralite Redi-earth
- 1 part perlite
- Some bonemeal fertilizer
(better too little than too much)
- Some dolemite limestone

Patiently mix this very, very well. After all, you do not want some pots to have mostly soil, some perlite, and some all Redi-earth. Put it in a plastic bag

or container, and store. If it is bone dry when you next use it, be sure to soak your newly planted violet in a container of water until you are sure every inch of the soil is wet. Dry sphagnum is much like a dry sponge - the water will sit on the top or run right off if there is not already moisture in it.

Now, let me quote from an article in the March, 1986 issue of *Rodale's Organic Gardening* called "African Violets, the Indoor Queen."

"African violets need a well-drained, airy potting mix. Tests at Cornell University found that the plants do well in a soilless mix of two parts shredded sphagnum peat moss, one part grade #2 or #3 vermiculite, and one part perlite *if fertilized regularly*. To raise the pH, the mix needs limestone, about a tablespoon per two gallons of mix. If you are a diligent waterer, you can add more perlite - since it does not absorb water, perlite encourages drainage."

The experts at Cornell University report they use Jiffy Mix (which I have never been able to find) and perlite, two to one. This works out to roughly one

part each of peat, vermiculite, and perlite.

Assuming that Redi-earth is the same as Jiffy Mix, which I do, my mix is only slightly different, with the exception of the African violet soil. Frankly, I include this because I do not trust my

ability to gauge feeding. In case they are underfed - the soil has nutrients they need. Just remember, always dilute your fertilizer to one fourth strength, and use water which has sat for long enough to reach room temperature.



Wick Watering

Wick watering is not for everyone. If you enjoy nurturing a tender plant - touching it as you water, turn, and groom it - then why bother? On the other hand, if you enjoy adventuring a little, and then being able to relax and just enjoy your plant - well, try your hand at wicking one or two. Experiment until you get the right combination of wick, soil, water, and environment. The results will be breathtaking, and from then on your African violet will require very little attention from you.

You will need to try different wicks and different thicknesses of material to find what works with your soil and your pot size. The bigger the pot, the thicker the wick must be. Too much wick keeps the soil too wet, and your plant gets mushy and rots. Too little wick fails to keep the soil evenly moist, and eventually it dries out entirely. Some of the suggested wicks are:

- Two or three strands of polyester or acrylic sport yarn.
- Old nylon hosiery cut into narrow strips (start with 1 inch strip, rolled).
- Nylon, polyester, or acrylic macrame cord.
- Polyester or acrylic rug yarn.

The wick should be long enough to thread through the hole in the bottom of the pot and go up into the pot half way and still leave three inches hanging out the bottom to reach into the water. Thread the wick through and fill the pot part way with soil, etc., and then add your plant. Set the newly transplanted pot in a tray of tepid water, taking care that the wick is submerged. Let it become completely soaked to start the capillary action. Press the soil down gently; do not pack the soil. African violet roots like very porous soil, but wick watering requires that the water can travel through the soil easily from one particle to another.

Meanwhile prepare your "reservoir" - usually a margarine or non-dairy topping tub with a tightly fitting lid. Cut two holes in the lid. One - in the center

- is for the wick. The other - at one corner or side - is for adding water, and letting air enter. Put the lid on the container, fill with water to which you have added 1/8 strength fertilizer, and drop the wick into the water through the center hole.

Now the pot sits on the reservoir and draws water constantly up the wick. It is possible to set this whole contraption - pot, tub, and all - into a decorative basket or ceramic container, and the violet will look lovely. No one will know it is resting on a margarine tub. Water can be added through the side hole as needed with a long-spouted watering can, or a turkey baster. The formation of ugly green algae in the reservoir will not hurt your violet, but it will tell you it is time to clean and sterilize the tub and begin with fresh fertilizer water, since salts build up periodically.

Just be sure to keep the plant groomed and inspect for pests. A perfectly wicked African violet meets all its needs for evenly moist soil, gentle fertilizer, and security. Given the right light, it ought to make you famous for your wonderful way with this really rather tricky bloomer.



One Way To Grow African Violets From A Leaf

Beware! Following these directions even slightly may plunge you into a whole houseful of African violets - lovely violets which require all of your time, attention, and spare change. "One thing leads to another. One leaf leads to 5 or 10 babies which mature and produce leaves which produce babies which..."

To root a leaf, use one part vermiculite, one part perlite, and one part milled sphagnum moss (or some combination of these) in a small container or divided

bedding-plant plastic. Cut a leaf that is strong and healthy looking - not too big. Cut the petiole (stem) on the slant, leaving it about 1/2 inch long. Use a razor blade or very sharp knife in order not to bruise the tender tissue. Most authorities suggest you let this freshly-cut leaf sit for a half an hour to dry slightly, but it is not fatal if you do not have time or space. Put the stem and about 1/4 inch of the leaf itself in the vermiculite mixture and set the container in tepid water until the mixture is very moist. Press soil around stem firmly but gently and set in a saucer. Cover lightly with clear plastic. It will do best if kept in strong light, but never in direct sun. Water as necessary by letting it soak water from the saucer.

If the leaf does not wither and die, and it stays firm and crisp to your touch, it is producing "babies." This is the time for patience. It will take at least six weeks for the new leaves to appear around the base of the leaf. Many varieties take much longer. The number of babies also varies from variety to variety, although usually it will be three to five small plantlets.

Wait until the babies have six or so leaves of their own, and until they are an inch or so high. They may crowd the space very badly, but it is much easier to transplant them if they are large enough to handle. They will be easily separated in the perlite mixture, which does not cling to the roots as firmly as soil. Transplant each one into African violet soil which you have lightened and made porous by adding vermiculite, perlite or Redi-earth. This first pot should be no larger than 2 inches across. A Solo bathroom cup with 4 or 5 small holes poked in the bottom is ideal. You may be tempted to put more than one plantlet in a pot, but this is the only time you will be able to separate the roots easily and without damage, so the rule is "only one plant per pot."

By grouping these pots with their tiny plants together in a tray, you can cover them lightly with a clear plastic. They dry out very quickly and will need tender loving care and very guarded sunlight if you do not have fluorescent lighting. But given this, they will develop very quickly, and bloom surprisingly early. In fact, I have left some plantlets with their "mother" leaf so long that I have found blooms on them. Do not be afraid to let them get quite large in this first tiny pot before repotting again, and once again repot to only about a 3 or 4 inch pot. Violets do not like to be lost in a sea of soil! Try to label each plantlet right from the beginning, and do not let the tag get lost. Growing violets is much more fun if you

know each one by its correct name, and your friends will be thrilled to receive named plants. You are on your way to becoming a professional grower - and very popular with everyone who receives one of your homegrown beauties.

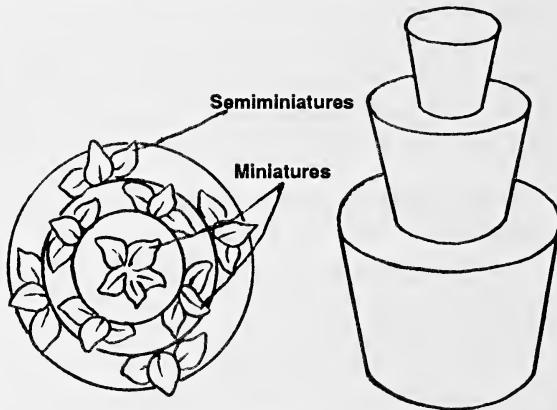
Pyramid Planter

Dorothy Bullen
Victoria Saintpaulia Society

Take three pots and some soil and build a pyramid planter. It is best to use miniature or semiminiature African violets.

Place an inch or so of gravel (sterile) or something similar in the base of the largest pot. Add soil mix until two-thirds full. Put next size pot in center and finish filling first pot. Continue nesting and filling pots.

Plant with the number of plantlets you expect will be adequate when they are fully grown.



If a variety of African violets are used the foliage should be similar.

Use a light soil mix with added charcoal. You don't want it to be soggy. Water each layer with tepid water, cover loosely with a large plastic bag until baby plants recover from the shock of being moved.

When the violets bloom you will have an array of blossoms all the same color or a rainbow of colors. This type of planter could also look charming using small trailing violets.

Remember to water thoroughly when necessary and to turn the planter so all areas receive an equal amount of direct light.

Having A Way With Trailers

Gwen Silk
Victoria Saintpaulia Society

For many years the trailing habit in African violets was considered undesirable. People wanted plants that were of symmetrical growth rather than plants that suckered and flopped untidily over the edge of the pot. Trailers typically grow long stems that branch to produce multiple growing points and clusters of leaves. The trailing characteristic comes primarily from one of the *Saintpaulia* species, *S. grotei* discovered in Tanganyika in 1921 and used by Lyndon Lyon in 1966 when he crossed *S. grotei* with 'Tiny Rose' and 'Tiny Pink.' Hybrids from successive crosses have produced many colors, types and leaf forms.

Miniature trailers were created by crossing a pink trailer with a small growing species, *S. magungensis* var. *minima*. Now, in the 1980s, there are countless varieties of standard, semiminiature, miniature and even exquisite micro-miniatures with the tiniest leaves and perfect flowers.

These plants need good light but not strong sunlight; soil should be kept moist. Trailers grow well under lights, but they perform their best when growing on wicks and hanging at windows. They need a little heavier fertilizing than standard African violets.

Like miniature violets, trailers do need repotting more often to keep them tidy and well groomed. Pot sizes should be suitable for the size of the plant. Micro-minis and the small miniatures look charming when grown in dainty urns.

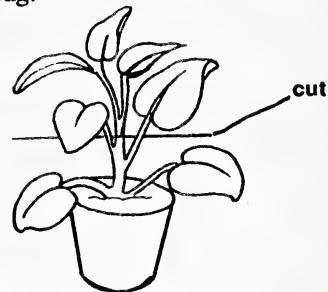
Groom trailers by removing all damaged and faded leaves and those with very pale long stems. This ensures that the crowns are kept neat and of even size. Remove all faded flowers.

The trailing branches of a mature plant may hang over the side of the pot providing there are no bare stems showing through the leaves. Bare trailing stems should be removed. This form of pruning encourages new growth.

Trailers are grown for form rather than symmetry; a mature trailer should have at least three crowns. Giving the pot a half turn at each watering will help keep the growth even.

Propagation is by leaf or tip cutting. Either can be rooted in water or any good propagation mix. Remove plantlets from parent leaves of standard trailers when plantlets are about 1-1/2" tall and pot them in small pots. Plantlets from smaller-growing trailers should be about 1" tall when divided. The leaves of the micro-minis are very small and the tiny stems usually only produce one plantlet per leaf. Pot these in very small pots and do not allow to dry out.

Tip cuttings will produce a good plant quickly if the tip is planted in a small pot and given extra humidity till it has rooted. This extra humidity is easily managed by placing the potted cutting inside a clear plastic bag.



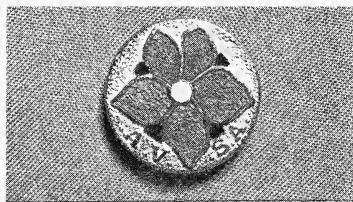
First pinching

Not all the violets we call trailers actually develop trailing branches. Some grow in a clump-like fashion. They develop many crowns; their leaves hang over the pot rim and they are very floriferous. This type of trailer does not need to have the middle "pinched." This pinching is done to encourage the growth of more side shoots which will develop into trailing branches. When your plants have developed 4 to 8 mature leaves, carefully pinch out the center crown growth. By doing this, new trailing stems will be produced evenly around the pot. Not all the miniature trailers need to be pinched in this way. Observe the new growth, if it is sparse the plant will respond to having the middle removed. Micro-minis grow many crowns from a very early stage without the encouragement of pinching.

A well-grown African violet trailer, with its many bright flowers, is an eye-stopper. If you have not grown a trailer you have a treat in store.

AVSA EMBLEMS

(Give a Friend a Gift)



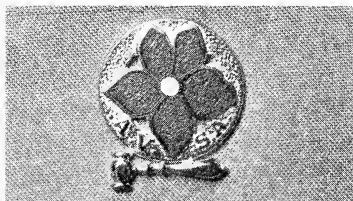
A - 201
Member Pin
GP or Silver - \$12.75



B - 203
Member Charm
GP or Silver - \$12.75



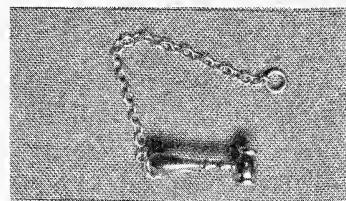
C - 202
President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50



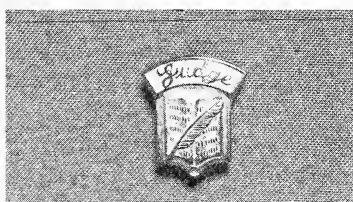
D - 221
Past President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50
(with Tie Tack) - \$18.50



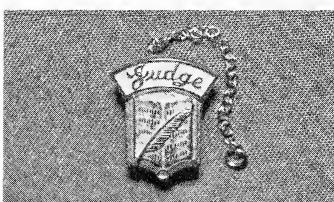
E - 204
Past President's Charm
GP or Silver \$18.50



F - 211
Gavel & Chain
GP or Silver - \$6.00



G - 234
Judge's Pin
GP or Silver - \$8.00
(with Tie Tack) - \$8.00



H - 210
Judge's Guard Pin
GP or Silver \$9.50
(chain attaches to other pins)



I - 208
Judge's Charm
GP or Silver - \$8.00

New Arrivals: Life Member Pins

Goldfilled - \$24 • Silver - \$20.00

The Language of the Gavel

By Ann Richardson

Did you who own AVSA pins with a gavel know that there is a language of the gavel? The angle of the gavel tells a story, as follows:

President-elect:



(as in use — rapping for order)

Past-President:



worn down, as at rest.

Some of the clubs in the south present their President-elect with the pin and gavel immediately after election so that she may wear her pin showing that she is President-elect and also during her presidency.

Is Your Plant Looking Gloomy?

Dust settles on plant leaves and makes them look rather dull. A clean plant seems to shine. Take a firm soft brush and dust the leaves; a shaving brush is ideal. Support large leaves with your other hand and brush firmly away from the center.

Violets also appreciate a bath. Take the plant to the sink, tilt the pot and allow the warm water to run softly over the leaves. The center leaves do not usually require washing, however, if any water gets into the crown of the plant, dry it with a tissue. Dry plant away from bright light and drafts.

Some Fertilizer Tips

Do not feed newly potted plants growing in a medium which contains fertilizer. One month after potting is the time to start fertilizing. If plants have become really dry they must be watered with plain water, fertilize next day.

Plants grown in cold conditions will need very little fertilizer in the winter.

AV WORLD'S BEST SELLER

THIS POPULAR BOOK HAS NOW BEEN TRANSLATED INTO JAPANESE AND PUBLISHED BY "ENGAI GUIDE" OF TOKYO. The foreword was written by Mrs. Toshiko Kawakami, the world's foremost authority on Saintpaulias. You may get a translated copy by sending \$20 in cash (price includes air mail postage) to: Kamon, No. 2-6-11, Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150 Japan.

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Notice:

Until September 1, 1988 order AVSA slide programs and packets from Bob L. Green, 997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955. List in July issue. After September 1, 1988 orders are to be sent to the AVSA Office, P.O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write to L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Ave., Morgan City, LA 70380.

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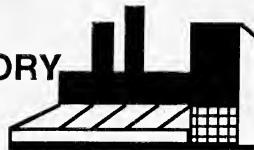
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Size	Color	Type	10	20	50	100	500
2	White	RS	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/4	Wh or Gr	RS, SQ	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS, SQ	1.15	1.80	4.00	6.50	29.00
3	Wh or Gr	RS, RT, SQ	1.35	2.30	5.00	9.00	42.50
3 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT, SQ	1.55	2.70	6.30	11.00	50.00
4	Wh or Gr	RS, RT, SQ	1.85	3.20	7.20	13.50	60.00
4 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS, RT, SQ	2.30	4.00	8.50	16.00	76.00
5	Wh or Gr	RS, RT	2.65	4.90	11.00	19.50	88.00
6	Wh or Gr	RS, RT	3.25	5.65	13.00	25.00	119.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT	3.80	6.40	14.75	27.50	127.50
7	Wh or Gr	RS	6.30	11.75	27.50	49.50	235.00
8	Wh or Gr	RS, RT	6.80	12.75	29.00	55.00	250.00

(COLORS: Wh=White, Gr=Green)

(TYPE: RS=Round Standard, height & width are same.

RT=Round Tub, height is 3/4 of width.

SQ=Square, volume about the same as RS.)

PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow, about half as deep as they are across the top, bottom holes only.

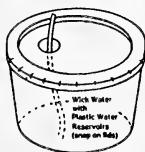
(Recommended in AVSM articles and convention presentations)

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	500
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.00	22.50	97.50
6	Wh or Gr	3.65	6.70	15.50	29.50	132.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	163.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	240.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	400.00

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8 oz.	1 3/4"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
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32 oz.	3"	10.00	22.00	42.00	135.00

(Wicks are not included)



DISCOVERY: We have found that 5" pans fit nicely and securely into the tops of 16 oz. reservoirs when the lids are left off!



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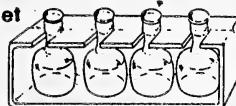
Write for quantity price quotes. Be sure to give the size of pots (A) with which they will be used.

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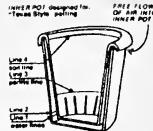
ROOT your leaves in clear acrylic flasks; 4 of them in a clear rack, 10" long; each flask is 3 1/4" high. It makes a nice gift.



Send for our FREE CATALOG which lists and describes several other items such as: many kinds of saucers, leaf supports, pens, labels, masks, gloves, Sinningia and African Violet seeds, soil enriching materials, trays, books, Insecticides, and more. Your request for a catalog will be answered by return mail.

OYAMA PLANTERS - \$1.49 each

As noted elsewhere in this journal, we are selling the popular OYAMA Texas Style Planters, in white only. They are 4" across the top, and 4 3/4" tall, and have nicely rolled rims.



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Single planter	\$ 3.50
Six planters	16.75
Twelve planters	29.50
Twenty-four planters	49.95



Plant Care Items

*Please Note:

Due to the bulkiness of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we are able to ship only 8 gallons of any one or combination of these four items with each shipping charge.

*Violet House Potting Soil	1 gal.	\$ 1.40
*Nadeau Soilless Mix	1 gal.	1.40
*Perlite - opens, aerates the soil	1 gal.	1.40
*Vermiculite - opens, holds soil moisture	1 gal.	1.40
Canadian Peat - milled	2 gal.	2.50
Dolomite Lime - raises alkalinity (pH)	1 lb.	1.30
Charcoal - sweetens soil	12 oz.	1.40
Sphagnum Moss - long fibered	1/4 cu. ft.	2.75
Fish Emulsion - promotes greening, roots	10 oz.	1.75
Leaf Shine & Cleaner - pump sprayer	8 fl. oz.	1.50
House Plant Insect Spray - non-aerosol	10 fl. oz.	1.50
Violet House Soil is a soilless medium containing Canadian peat, vermiculite, perlite, dolomite lime, and a small amount of fertilizer. The pH is approximately 6.5.		

CAPILLARY MATTING (Vatex)

Water plants by means of capillary action. A dark plastic sheet, with tiny holes, lies on top of matting; pots are placed directly on plastic, water coming through the holes. Dark plastic, which comes with the matting, keeps light from the matting and thus minimizes growth of algae. Each square foot \$.35
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This portable Plant Lite has plastic tipped legs made of sturdy aluminum tubing which can be adjusted to raise or lower the 14-1/2" x 48" x 1-3/4" fixture over the surface to be lighted. The four settings for distance from lamps to table top are 11", 12", 15", and 19". Needs at least a 30" deep (front to back) table surface on which to set at lowest setting. At the highest setting, a 12" surface. The closer to the table top the light is positioned the more the legs must be spread. Most violet growers find the 15" setting to be best. The unit is 53" long over all including the legs which mount to the top of the fixture at each end. This baked white enamel fixture holds the fluorescent lamps approximately 10" apart for excellent evenness of light over the growing surface. Two Gro-Lux Wide Spectrum lamps are included in the price (also available without lamps). Has a 3 foot long, 3 wire grounded cord with a 3 pronged plug, a three hole grounded convenience outlet built into the end panel, an on-off switch, and fully enclosed ends for protection of the lamps and end sockets. Does a wonderful job on violets or other house plants, and can be used for starting spring seeds as well. Unit may be operated from a timer that will take a 3 pronged plug. Price includes shipping from the factory by UPS. This table model is also available at the shop.

FOUR FOOT TABLE MODEL LITE Item #349 with 2 lamps \$85 shipping included *
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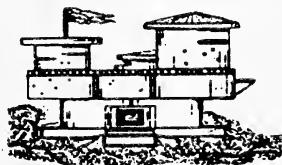
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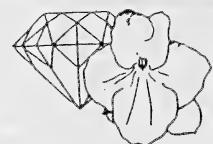
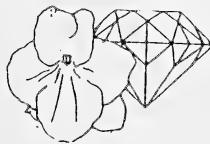
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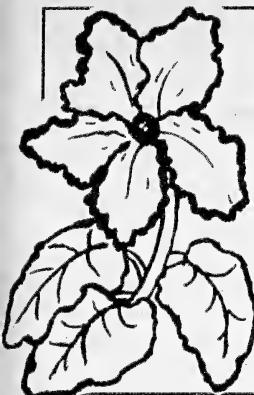
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A special thanks to Jeani Hatfield for all the help & encouragement.

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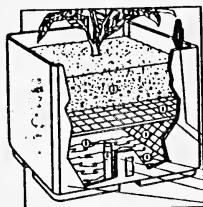
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25	6.25
50	11.50
100	20.00
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Watch your plants grow as never before!

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Our Stands are high quality, high durability, maintenance free,
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Model #	Without Fixtures	Stand + 3 Light Fixtures (One Per level)	Stand + 6 Light Fixtures (Two Per Level)
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We plan to continue to hybridize and participate in African violet activities. We look forward to seeing you in the future.

May God Bless Each of You, **MICKEY and LINDA RAY**

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Once you have a FloraCart, you'll wonder why you didn't get one a long time ago. You'll continuously raise luxurious African Violets - force spring flowering bulbs and get strong plants from all seeds and cuttings. FloraCart makes indoor gardening easy. Rugged lifetime aluminum tubing construction, adjustable shelves and heavy duty 3" casters are standard. Comes with 19" x 49" x 1-1/2" beautiful high-impact molded fiberglass trays - easily cleaned, impervious to moisture, chemicals and weather. Combolite fixture is designed for excellent flower culture.

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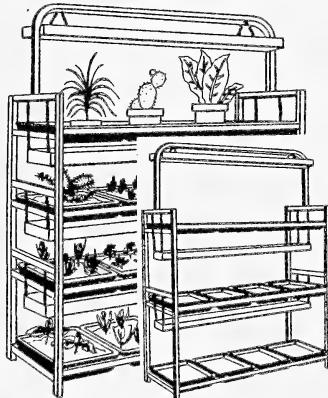
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C303 ()	3	73	51	20	3-20"x49"	2-25" & 1-15"	209	194	265	235
C404 ()	4	73	51	20	4-20"x49"	3-17" & 1-15"	263	239	339	299

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2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.90	1.65	3.00	5.50	27.00
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3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.15	2.75	5.10	9.50	43.45
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.45	3.20	6.00	11.25	49.50
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.00	4.70	6.70	13.00	61.60
5"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.25	4.95	9.50	17.30	78.50
6"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.85	12.65	23.10	106.70
6-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.20	7.20	13.85	25.40	110.00

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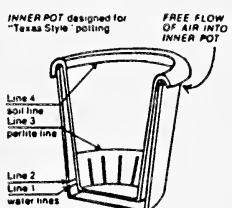
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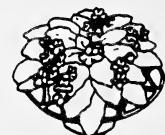
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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 41 Number 5 September · October 1988



Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

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AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$13.50, USA only. All other countries \$15.50. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$13.50; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check..

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Mr. John E. (Jack) Wilson, 6139 Willowick Lane, Springfield, VA 22152.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Mr. Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

BEST VARIETIES: HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Rt 1, Prescott, WI 54021.

BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Mrs. Linda Neumann, 11620 Mapleridge Drive, North Royalton, OH 44133.

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contributions (club or individual) to Mrs. Marlene Brown, P. O. Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075.

BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Jan. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Anne Jantzen, 2725 Katrina Way, Mountain View, CA 94040 by Sept. 1.

FUTURE DATES: Kansas City, MO, May 1 - 7, 1989; Boston, March 19-25, 1990.

PROGRAM: Jan. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Lee Ward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Lee Ward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

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JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Mrs. James S. Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates and copy information write: Mrs. Meredith Hall, 922 East 14th Street, Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

ARTICLES by READERS, COLUMNISTS and COMING EVENTS: Send to Editor. See above for address.

DEADLINES - ARTICLES: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

BACK ISSUES: Complete your set now. Request price list of available issues from Beaumont office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send new address at least 30 days before it is to take effect, along with old address, to AVSA office in Beaumont.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE: Notify AVSA office in Beaumont.

QUESTION BOX: Mrs. Nancy Hayes, 9 Cobblestone Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002.

MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 4 (1983) \$3.00 postpaid. A must for judges, exhibitors, serious growers. Describes all varieties registered to July, 1983 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from June, 1976 to July, 1983. Order from Beaumont office.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman. Back supplements (1984 to 1987) available from AVSA Office for \$1.50 each.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Janet T. Riemer, 392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534.

PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

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VIOLET SEARCH: Send your name, address, name of plant and hybridizer of older varieties to: Judith Kingsbury, Rt. 1, Box 118, Clayton, WI 54404.



African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 41 Number 5

September/October 1988

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

It's from "Big D" — Fredette's Strawberry Ripple, Best in Show, at the 1988 AVSA Convention in Dallas, Texas, grown and shown by Richard Nicholas of San Antonio, TX.

(Cover Photo by E.A. Johnson, Dallas, TX)

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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*The Official Publication of the
African Violet Society
of America, Inc.*

OFFICERS

MRS. FRED YOUNG, President
6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin, TX 78731
MRS. ARTHUR F. BOLAND, 1st Vice President
6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria, VA 22310
MR. A. CHARLES BOLLAR, 2nd Vice President
17055 Community St., Northridge, CA 91325
MRS. J. R. PITTMAN, 3rd Vice President
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MRS. JANET T. RIEMER, Secretary
392 Penn-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534
MRS. JOHN HAYES, Treasurer
9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK TINARI
2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

EDITOR EMERITUS

MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Alien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009

NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager

P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704

BOB GREEN, Publications Chairman

997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955

COLUMNISTS

David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Ellie Bogin, Margaret Waguestack, Norita Hallum, Betty Tapping, Hugh Mackey, Marie Burns, Bill Foster, Nancy Hayes, Nancy Lawrence, Linda Neumann, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson and Lyndall Owens

BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER

Mrs. Leon Piedler, Rt. 1, Prescott, WI 54021

TALLY TIME COMPILER

Mrs. John Chase (Mary) Reed, 17124 NE 29th Place, Bellevue, WA 98008

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From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

The summer months are a time for vacations and a change of pace, but it is always good to return to the routine of September activities. I hope your club has planned numerous programs on the culture of African violets and other gesneriads in preparation for blue ribbon entries in spring shows. Many societies include some mini shows in their monthly programs, concentrating on only one or two classes. This provides an opportunity for the local judges to brush up on judging techniques and keep abreast of current rules.

Even though there is a slow down in club activities during the summer, many of your AVSA committees have been hard at work. Members of the Convention Manual Revision Committee, including DoDe Whitaker, Gladys Hudnall, and Dottie Wilson, spent a week in June at the home of committee member, Marilyn Goldstein in Florida, working together to update the manual. They report their concentrated effort was very productive. The manual is the very heart of our conventions and is indispensable for the functioning of all convention committees.

The Kansas City Convention Committees, under the leadership of Esther Wells, have also been busy during the summer. In fact, they have been working diligently for many months planning another great convention, titled, "Get The Royal Treatment." You can be sure that the 1989 convention in Kansas City next May will be a Royal Treatment for all members in attendance. Watch for publicity articles in the African Violet Magazine.

Upon the recommendation of our editor, Jane Birge, the Board of Directors voted to add a 16-page pullout supplement in three of the African Violet Magazines, during the current year, for business pages. These pages will be used for MVL supplements, convention information, affiliate, commercial and judges lists. This will provide 16 extra pages for more articles on culture and photographs of new varieties. If you like the inclusion of the pull-out supplements in the magazine, write to our editor and let her know. She will appreciate hearing from you.

Affiliates, as well as commercials, are now eligible for rebates of one dollar for each new membership received in the AVSA office in Beaumont. Order your culture folders with membership blanks imprinted therein, from the office. The only charge will be for postage. Check the office manager's Newsline column in the July and September issues of the magazine for additional details on how to qualify for rebates.

COMMUNICATION will continue to be our theme for the balance of my term in office. We have appreciated hearing from many members this past year. Please continue to keep us informed about your ideas for more and better services for the affiliates and individuals as well. Write your constructive criticisms and suggestions to the Affiliate Recommendations

Compiler, Mrs. Harry Garner, 304 Buckeye Trail, Austin, TX 78746. Every letter will be acknowledged and referred to the appropriate committee for review. Thank you for taking the time to let us hear from you.

Happy Growing,

Frances Young

Newline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

Orders for AVSA Library Slide Programs or Packets

Where To Order:

Beginning this month, all orders for AVSA Library Slide Programs or Packets should be sent to the AVSA office, along with your check made payable to AVSA. Please send a separate check for Library orders. Do not include payment for membership or other items in the check you are sending for a Library order.

How and What To Order:

A complete description of Slide Programs, Packets, Costs and How To Order, can be found on pages 38 through 40 of the July 1988 AVM.

September Supplement:

This issue contains a 16-page supplement which lists AVSA Commercial Members, Affiliated Clubs, and Judges. If you are looking for a place to buy plants, be sure to check the commercial list — new commercial members are added every year. If you would like to share your "growing" experiences or your African violets are calling for help, check the Affiliate list for the club nearest you. There are many experienced growers out there who would be happy to share their knowledge. The Judges' list should be very beneficial to any of our members in need of an AVSA Judge for a show. Check the list for Judges in your area — new Judges are added every year.

Change in Affiliate Officers:

When affiliated clubs elect new officers, this office must be notified or the magazine, renewal notices and other correspondence will go to the wrong person. When you send a list of new officers, please include the address, membership number of the officers and telephone numbers if possible.

The Affiliate list in this issue includes the name of

each club president. If the president listed is not current, it is probably because we were not informed of a change. If your club is not listed, it is probably because the club dues were not paid. Please inform this office of any changes in your club listing.

AVSA Judges:

All AVSA Judges should inform this office of any change in name or address. At the time of such notification, also inform us that you are a judge and tell us your status.

If you fail to renew on time, and then rejoin at a later date, be sure to inform us at that time that you are a judge and tell us your status.

When you attend a Judging School, give the person in charge your membership number as well as your name and address. The membership number helps us to be more accurate in updating your status record.

Please check the Judges' list in this issue and inform this office of any changes in your listing.

Free Culture Folders:

Once again, we would like to remind our Affiliate and Commercial members that they can order up to 5,000 free culture folders per year (shipping cost not included).

The Affiliate or Commercial name should be stamped or written on the front of the folder so that they can be credited for new membership applications received. Any club or commercial who send us six new members or more will be sent \$1.00 for each new member.

When we send the free culture folders, we will include a bill for shipping cost.

Tinari Greenhouses Award:

Individuals can now join the drive for new members and win a cash prize. Tinari Greenhouses are offering a \$25.00 award to the individual who brings us the most new members. See page 15 for details. If you would like to participate, you can order free membership blanks from this office.

AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

David Buttram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051



Patty's Plant Place

I headed my station wagon westward on the imaginary yellow brick road toward Kansas and the mythical land of the Wizard of Oz, for this column.

About 130 miles west of Kansas City I entered the grandeur known as the Flint Hills. This distinctive region of the midwest is 500 million acres of tall grass prairie. This cattlemen's paradise is one of the few remaining open ranges in the U.S. and produces a million head of cattle every spring for America's dinner tables.

The softly undulating meadows of bluestem grass and colorful wild flowers reach as far as the eye can see in all directions. Somehow life takes on a new perspective in such an open and uncluttered environment.

But the Flint Hills were not my destination — Cheney, Kansas was. Cheney, with its 1,500 residents, is about 20 miles west of Wichita, in the south central part of the state and is home to John and Patty Daniel of Patty's Plant Place.

I knew I was getting close when I saw a billboard advertising "Patty's Plant Place — African Violets and exotic foliage plants."

Pulling into the gravel driveway of their range-style home, I was greeted by Patty and John. The home was situated a short distance from town and was literally surrounded by wheat, which we looked at before going into the house. Harvest was five to 10 days away and the fields were virtually "amber waves of grain" and a light breeze created an illusion of a golden sea.

Once inside the home and ready for the actual interview, my attention was drawn to several aquariums placed in the living room and the room adjacent to the kitchen. The aquariums contained frogs. Yes, real, live frogs. These frogs were pets Patty had

collected over the years, with the most recent addition being a Valentine's gift from her husband. Patty acknowledged her love for the frogs by saying, "He knows the way to my heart is by a frog."

Patty has an allergy to most common animals and began collecting frogs several years ago. She finds them easy to care for and require only about an hour a week to clean the aquariums they live in. Her



Patty admires a new introduction.

collection now numbers 10 and includes specimens from Manchuria, Africa, the Amazon Basin of South America, Arkansas and Missouri.

I found the frogs beautiful and was reminded of the role they played in nature as Patty told how they fed on insects and smaller animals. Their major drawback seems to be the noise they make as they begin their individual "singing" in the evening. "In the evening when they begin their sounds it is almost impossible to watch television," Patty remarked.

Now, down to business. Patty began selling plants in 1977. Initially she dealt in foliage plants, including cactus and ferns. But by 1980 she began to eliminate everything except African violets from her inventory. Because of the size of Cheney, Patty began developing her mail order business and a wholesale clientele among the florists in nearby Wichita. This was not especially easy as many had bought from local growers who had six or eight extra plants to sell, from time to time. When a florist needed a quantity for a special occasion, none were available. Patty's job was to say, "Yes, I have a ready supply of blooming plants and can supply you on a regular basis."



An overview of Patty's growing room.

With the improved service of the United States Postal Service and United Parcel Service, Patty finds that her location is not a disadvantage in the mail order business.

At any given time Patty has about 3,000 plants growing, representing some 600 varieties. Her catalog lists somewhat fewer, as she knows she is selling to the hobbyist who wants the latest and/or best of recent introductions. Of those she lists, the most popular are Fredette, Hortense Pittman, Granger Gardens, and Lyon Greenhouses.

Patty usually begins shipping about the middle of April and it is about eight weeks later, before she is caught up. She adds a nice touch — "I always include free plants in the orders I mail. One lady wrote once and ordered only one plant. I sent her two free plants along with the one she paid for."

Shipping season usually ends around the first of November, although she may ship later to southern states if weather permits.

I was surprised as we moved into the area of hybridizing. Patty is one of the few commercial growers I have met who does not want to hybridize. She explained, "Not a bit. I have no interest in

hybridizing. I know it's unusual, but to me it takes so much time and energy and I want every plant I have to have a name on it to sell. I grow them to sell and I sell lots of plants." This is a businesswoman with definite ideas on how she is going to succeed.

Around the first of January, Patty's annual catalog is mailed and a supplement is mailed in July. Patty has had open houses in the past, but plans to eliminate them in the future.

Husband John joined us at the table. John is a program manager on the Citation III for Cessna Aircraft. "I don't even know what that means," jokes Patty. Actually, she is very proud of John, as he coordinates all phases of manufacturing that particular line, which is a business jet with a basic price of \$7 million. He built all of Patty's plant stands and goes to shows and regional conventions to help sell. After listing the many areas in which John helps, Patty adds, "He actually doesn't touch the plants, though—he does change a lot of bulbs and has been known to deliver plants a time or two."

John also comes to the rescue from time to time: "I want to handle the plants myself although it does get hard sometimes, but John cooks a meal or two."

The Daniels have a 20-year-old son who attends Wichita State University. Patty also attends the same university where she is studying marketing and business and is working toward a degree in general studies.

Patty grows several columneas and episcias and for all her plants she uses a modified Cornell University mix.

Patty Daniel's Growing Mix

2 parts sphagnum peat

1-1/2 parts perlite

1 part vermiculite

To every 20 gallons of above mix add:

10 Tablespoons dolomite

6 Tablespoons garden fertilizer
(10-10-10)

2 Tablespoons bonemeal

2 Tablespoons potash product

Her growing area is absolutely immaculate, which Patty believes to be very important in insect prevention. Because she is allergic to various sprays, she goes the extra step in prevention. "I am a fanatic about that (prevention) and I will spray my plants outside before bringing them home from a show."

When new plants from other growers arrive, not only are they isolated, but the leaves are stripped off



Patty and John Daniel of Patty's Plant Place, Cheney, Kansas.

and "put down" and the root ball is thrown away.

Patty and John are active in the recently formed Missouri Valley African Violet Council as well as local African violet clubs. They will attend the AVSA convention next May in Kansas City, which will be their first. They are looking forward to meeting friends and customers from across the United States.

The interview concluded with chocolate cake and



A line of episcias and columneas is carried at Patty's Plant Place.

iced tea. Then into Patty's plant room we went for a look and picture taking. I admit to a small amount of envy of those people whose lives are neat, orderly, and well planned. Obviously, Patty's life and business are that way.

Her plants were full of bloom and in good, rich color. They looked so strong and healthy, for which Patty credits her soil mix. And yes, I was able to take some new cultivars home with me.

In just a few days, I was told, harvest crews would be in the surrounding fields gleaning the golden wheat that eventually will end up on dinner tables. Likewise, Patty's African violets will be shipped to homes where their color and beauty will nurture in a different and perhaps more important way.

Unlike so many visits I make, there was no hurried schedule to meet — no airplane to catch. My drive home was leisurely and without rush. Driving back through Wichita, the air capital of the world, the beautiful verdant Flint Hills, oil fields and some of the richest farm land in the world, I realized the many blessings of this great nation.

The Land of Oz, with its yellow brick road, is nothing in comparison to the real Kansas — the land of Ah's.

In Memory

Emily Holtman

On Wednesday, April 27, 1988, Emily Holtman passed quietly out of our lives. She was so quick to heap praise on us for our little accomplishments in life and in the plant world. We will never forget our Emily. With her own special way of lending a hand, Emily was always there. Yet for all she did, she was the last to ask for help and was easily embarrassed when praise was given her for her beautiful plants and lovely designs. We will miss you Emily.

*Baltimore African Violet Club
Potomac Council of AV Judges
Baltimore Chapter of AGGS*

Emma Lahr

Mrs. Emma Lahr of Littleton, CO, an AVSA member, died June 7, 1988. She served on the AVSA Board of Directors for 14 years in various capacities, including affiliate chairman, and was the recipient of a one-year honorary membership and continued service award in 1977. She also served the society as Secretary from 1979 to 1982.

Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Brown

P.O. Box 38

Oreland, PA 19075

Violet lovers one and all

Begin a beautiful fall

By hearing our call

Open your treasures & give donations

For researching new violet creations

For us and future generations.

Donations received from March 25, 1988 through May 25, 1988.	
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Central Florida AVS, Orlando in memory of Mae Rayfield	5.00
Illinois AVS Inc., Country Club Hills	10.00
Wichita AV Study Club, KS	15.00
Mrs. Julie Adams, Shelton, CT donation of a speaking fee	50.00
Mid Polk AVS, Winter Haven, FL in memory of Clela Strachan, sister of Vena Griffith	10.00
Albuquerque AV Club, NM	25.00
Barbara Stipsak, Ruxton, MD in memory of Emily Holtman	10.00
Riverside AV/Gesneriad Workshop, CA	15.00
Barrington Bloomers AVS, IL	10.00
AVS of Philadelphia, PA in lieu of judges expenses or Sharon Toolan, Baltimore, MD	10.00
Marilyn J. McMillan, Bozeman, MT in appreciation to Dr. Charles Cole for help in solving my African violet problems	10.00
Balboa Park AVS, San Diego, CA in memory of Jean Kramer	10.00
Long Island AVS, Wantagh, NY	25.00
AVS of Greater New York Inc., Flushing to further research to enhance the beauty of the African violet	20.00
Longview AV Club, WA in appreciation for the work that is being done for all who enjoy our beautiful violets	10.00
Baltimore AV Club, MD in lieu of judging expenses for Northern VA judges in memory of Emily Holtman	10.00

Affiliates, Don't Forget ...
Order your AVSA Library
Slide Programs & Packets
from the AVSA Office
in Beaumont, TX.



Beginner's Forum

Betty Tapping
#1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke
Ontario M9C 1G5 Canada

Trailers - To Grow? To Show?

A number of the *Saintpaulia* species are of trailing habit and a good perspective may be gained by looking at those which have the genetic propensity to trail naturally. Those used extensively to bring the trailing habit to present day hybrids were *S. grotei*, *S. pendula* and *S. magungensis*.

An easy introduction to trailer growing may indeed be to try *S. magungensis minima* — a little delight to grow, branching and trailing naturally. As it grows it continues to root where it touches soil. It also readily produces tiny violet blue flowers — love it!

Trailers are started in exactly the same manner as standards — basically by planting a leaf and separating the resulting plantlets. These will be single stem and you will notice that some will start to branch naturally. More than likely though, you will have to help it start, by pinching the centre two small leaves about three weeks after the first potting. As the plant develops you may wish to systematically pinch each growing tip to encourage bushy growth.

From the first planting, do try to be consistent in the care of your trailer. You want to have the foliage growing in a nice form. Sadly, very few branch naturally to produce a show plant, without a fair amount of tender loving care.

First and foremost — ensure that your baby plant has developed at least three trailing branches from the original stem — more than three is even better. If only two appear, pinch again until three are visible.

Now, let's try to get a good growth pattern going. This is an ongoing challenge with trailers and can be quite tricky, but practice and just a little help will go a long way in helping them reach cultural perfection.

It is most important to keep stems from crossing

each other at odd angles — or attaching themselves to each other — ruining the growth pattern. Strategic pinning will help here and will also encourage stems to attach themselves to the soil and produce new growth. Insufficient light may cause spindly growth, resulting in increased length of internodes. This can also depend somewhat on the variety, but at least 12 hours light is necessary. You will also notice that trailers placed too close to other plants will tend to grow tall rather than in a spreading manner. This is because the foliage of any plant will grow in a pattern which allows all leaves to receive as much light as possible — you've heard the term "reaching for light." It becomes very clear if you try growing a trailer without allowing it space.

Should you find, as your plant matures, that one branch is larger and has larger leaves than the others, you may want to try pinching it off; provided you still have a minimum of three branches from the original stem. I find that apart from the usual gradation in leaf size, leaf patterns stay fairly even, if your fertilizing and watering regimen is good.

What's good? I prefer to use a slightly larger pot for trailers than for standards. The roots have to support a fair amount of foliage — and continuous flower production — so I like to give them a good base: loose porous African violet soil, constant feed of 20-20-20, alternated with 12-36-14 or similar, 1/4 teaspoon plus one drop of Superthrive to a gallon of moderately warm water. Remember, initially these plants grew in tropical areas where they received warm tropical rain. I firmly believe that most spotting of leaves is cause not by spilling water on the leaves but by using chilly water on the roots.

Do not allow to dry out; more than anything, this will cause loss of leaves and consequently bare

sections of stem will show, detracting from the attractiveness of your plant. Should this happen in the extreme, you can start over again by separating the crowns, let the soil dry so the plant can be easily removed from the pot, carefully pull apart allowing as much of the root system to remain attached as is possible, and plant each section in an appropriate size pot. If stems become too rangy for even that procedure, cut the stems at the soil level and reroot in damp vermiculite.

While, as a beginner, you may not be seriously thinking of showing your trailer, it is a good idea to be aware of the judging considerations, if only to improve the eye-pleasing quality. The AVSA scale of points used for trailers is broken down as follows: 25 points for form, 25 for condition (cultural perfection), 25 for quantity of bloom, 15 for size and type of blossom and 10 for colour of blossom.

Form is growth pattern — and we've covered that — except for a couple of points. Plants described as semi-trailers will not trail well. They will grow in an upward or slightly sideways pattern. They are the exception to a pinching programme. If your trailer is hanging while growing, it's a good idea to hang it low enough in the window or other light source to ensure the centre of the plant is receiving good strong light; otherwise it is difficult to maintain the new growth and you will end up with only strands hanging over the pot sides.

Condition — which is good cultural practices during the growth of the plant plus the trimming, cleaning, repotting, etc., all necessary to keep your plant looking presentable and pretty. Even on your shelf or window sill, make a point of keeping your plant clean rather than allow debris to collect in and around it. Yellowing or marked leaves, dead blossom stalks, etc., should be regularly removed and bare stems should not show.

Quantity of bloom — there's nothing nicer than a well grown trailer covered in bloom — and thankfully, most trailer hybrids bloom heavily, as you will notice when keeping them clean. Bloom should be spaced in balanced proportions over all main crowns, whether three or more, and the quantity is assessed on the basis of the maximum expected on the plant being judged. Size and type of blossom are gauged according to the variety as is the colour of blossom.

Finally, in judging specimens, the total effect of the plant must be pleasing. Removing leaves or

stems which appear superfluous or unnecessary usually improves the appearance of the specimen. Practice and a keen eye for balance will help. A friend who also grows many trailers tells me I don't grow better plants, I just have a way of making something out of nothing.

A good start is to choose varieties known to be consistent show winners and therefore worthy of space in your growing area. Pixie Blue, for instance, or Snowy Trail, both of which are on the Honor Roll of African Violets, are examples. My own favourites are mini and semimini trailers — due to my very limited growing space. I own one standard trailer, Twice Pink, which survives in my collection still, because it is a well-behaved plant.

Others currently giving me great pleasure for the little care they demand are Falling Snow, Rob's Sticky Wicket, Meek's Katy Baby, Dancin' Trail and Darling Blue Trail. Not to be outdone by the hybrids, *S. pendula* and *magungensis minima* also grow handsomely and share the spotlight. These and others are all desirable plants to add to any collection, as they have excellent potential — floriferousness, good growth habit, clear colour, flowers and leaves are usually in good proportion and well distributed over the plant. I should mention trailers with variegated foliage — they need coolness to keep the variegation and given that and a little better light, will perform magnificently.

What more could we want — but as with everything — these pointers are best learned by growing and acquiring a familiarity with the trailers. You'll get to love them. I urge you to bring them out to your local shows. The idea is to show off beautiful plants and everything is appreciated — not only top award winners.

Beauty is afterall, in the eyes of the beholder.

The Publications Committee
and the Editor of the
African Violet Magazine
would appreciate your
comments on the first
16-page supplement included
in this issue -
See center section.

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



JEFFERSON AV ASSOCIATION, LA — "Violet Majesty," Donna Rasch, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, JAVA, CIE, Juicy, 2nd best design, sweepstakes, Genelle & Al Armstrong; 2nd best AVSA collection, Mark, French Lilac, The King, Diana Seifert; best in show, best semiminiature, Precious Pink, best gesneriad, E. Cleopatra, Marjorie Blake; 2nd best in show, That's Italian, Audrey Voorhees; best miniature, Spritely, Douglas Ehrensing; best trailer, Pioneer Trail, best in design, Dorothy Benge; best species, S. pendula, Barbara and Dan Rome.

PARMATOWN AVC, OH — "National Parks and Violets," Edward A. Gohr, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Lady Diana, Opt. New Mexico, Twilight Glo, best in show, Wendy, 2nd best in show, Opt. New Mexico, best miniature, Precious Pink, sweepstakes, best design, "Yosemite National Park," Marian Tisdale; 2nd best AVSA collection, Twilight Glo, Ballet Anna, Ballet Erica, Linda Neumann; best gesneriad, Strep. Janice, Roseann Fixel.

SEATTLE AVS, WA — "April Showers - May Flowers," Donna Ferrill, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Dora Baker, best semi, Dora Baker, best miniature, Spritely, sweepstakes, Pat Lewis; best trailer, Pixie Blue, Karen Tallie; best gesneriad, Ramonda Myconii, Thea Oakley; best artistic planting, Sheila Eiseman; best arrangement, "Wee Raindrops," Roy Pritchard.

AVS OF SOUTH BAY, CA — "African Queens," Irene Thomas, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, ACA's Eye Knees, Blue Brad, best in show, Snow Rose, 2nd best in show, Blue Brad, sweepstakes runner-up, Dorothy Gawienowski; 2nd best AVSA collection, The King, Blueberry Frost, Granger's Wonderland, sweepstakes (23 blue ribbons), Ray Britton; best trailer, Tucson Trail (semi), best trailer, Sigi Falls, best gesneriad, Chrysothermis puchilla, Celine Chase; best semi, Roseokla, Mary Rice; best miniature, Little Rose Quartz, Lillian Chetelat; best design, "Above Africa," Irene Thomas.

BALTIMORE AVC, MD — "Grandma Grew Violets," Janet Haag & Charles Cohen, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Majestic, Magnolia, Magic, 2nd best in show, Majestic, best semi, Little Pro, best design, "Memories," Marie Burns; 2nd best AVSA collection, Majestic, Something Special, Splendiferous, Margaret Harcourt; best in show, Majestic, sweepstakes, Janet Haag; best miniature, Paradise Baby, Julia Stahl; best trailer, Ramblin Rascal, Rochelle Armstrong; best gesneriad, Chirita Hirasako, Diane Richardson.

CHARLOTTETOWN AVS, P.E.I., CANADA — "Rainbow of Violets," Hilda Lewis, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Moonfire, Roundabout, Joelle, best in show, Joelle, 2nd best in show, Coral Kiss, best trailer, Downsvview Trail, Freeman Newsom; best design, "Treasure by the Sea," best miniature, Spritely, sweepstakes, Hilda Lewis; best gesneriad, Episcia Chocolate Soldier.

NAUGATONIC AVS, CT — "Highways, Byways and Violets," Edna Rourke, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Lady

Linda, 2nd best in show, Forget Me Not, sweepstakes runner-up, 2nd best AVSA collection, Country Lass, Splendiferous, Royal Lady, Linda Jacobucci; best AVSA collection, Georgia, Nortex's Starlet Haven, Optimara Crater Lake, best arrangement, Julie Adams; best miniature, Rhythm Rascal, best semi, Snuggles, Julie Prohop; best gesneriad, Columnea Compres Gem, Marge Fargeot.

MEMPHIS AVS, TN — "Violet Circus," Ann Shirley, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Irish Angel, Denny Boo, Precious Pink, best in show, Precious Pink, best miniature, Toy Castle, best semi, Precious Pink, Katherine Steele; 2nd best AVSA collection, Val's Sweet Dreams, Mauna Loa, Cotton Bowl, 2nd best in show, Fickle Flirt, best design, sweepstakes (design), Iona Pair, sweepstakes & show sweepstakes, Ann Shirley.

THE FIRST AVS OF SPARTANBURG, SC — "Carousel of Violets," Jessie Dennis, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Precious Pink, Snuggles, Spring Prom, best in show, Grape Slush, 2nd best in show, City of Angels, best trailer, Snowy Trail, best miniature, Rhythm Rascal, best semi, Precious Pink, best gesneriad, Episcia Pink Satin, sweepstakes, Martha A. Young; best design, "Creative Curves on the Trapeze," Mary Ann Kirby.

FIRST GOLDSBORO AVS, NC — "Treasure Chest of African Violets," Lorena Bunn, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, Nancy Reagan, Harbor Blue, Frances Deans; 2nd best AVSA collection, Texas Dynamo, Wrangler's Gaudy Lady, Something Special, best in show, Apache Face, best gesneriad, Episcia Strawberry Mist, sweepstakes, Anna Level; 2nd best in show, Pendula Specie, Margaret Whitman; best design, "Pirates Hide-Away," best semi, Precious Pink, Ethel Twiford; best club project Snowkist Haven, Roberta Shukis (age 14).

AV CLUB OF TRENTON, NJ — "On The Wagon," Gary Thurman, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Rainbow's Meteor Splash, Granger's Desert Dawn, Mary Alice, best in show, Arts 'N' Crafts, 2nd best in show, S. Difficilis, sweepstakes, Gary Thurman; 2nd best AVSA collection, Splendiferous, White Pride, Mary Alice, best design, "Rickshaw," best miniature, Red Silver Bells, best semi, Beginner's Luck, best gesneriad, N. Black Gold, Rhona Thurman; best trailer, Perk-Up, Penny Wisniewski.

CHIMNEYVILLE AVC, MS — "Violets, God's Gift," Dr. Charles Sledge & Judy Williams, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Sweet Dreams, Midnight Romance, Razzberry Frost, best in show, Sweet Dreams, James Toney; 2nd best AVSA collection, Double Black Cherry, Chanticleer, Coral Queen, best trailer, Strawberry Trail, best miniature, Bahamian Sunset, best semi, Winnegreen, sweepstakes (64 blue ribbons), best gesneriad, Episcia Silver Skies, Dr. Charles Sledge; best design, Dorothy Screws.

AVS OF UTAH — "Once Upon A Violet..." Ruthann Lloyd & Betty Jacobsen, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Chris Leppard, Optimara Maine, Optimara Alabama, 2nd best in show, Optimara Alabama, Betty Anderson; 2nd best AVSA collection, Rhapsodie Vanessa, Fredette's Strawberry Ripple, Becky, best in show, Always Pink, best trailer, Always Pink, sweepstakes (horticulture), Edythe Crandall; best design (flower), best semi, Lavender Kisses, sweepstakes (design), Monte Pearce; best miniature, Charlotte King, Daisy Godfrey; best gesneriad, Faded Jade, Ruthann Lloyd.

SPRINGFIELD AVC, OH — "Violets Country Style," Patty Gibson, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snowkist Haven, Misty Lady, Texas Blue Moon, best in show, Texas Blue Angel, 2nd best in show, Isadorable, best trailer, Wood Trail, best semi, Heritage Frolic, best gesneriad, Aladdin's Lamp, sweepstakes, Ann Thomas; best design, "Nature's Bounty," Betty Bartley; best miniature, Little Pro, Sam Camell.

ORANGE COUNTY AVS, CA — "African Violets on Your Easter Bonnet," Mama Striepens, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Mary D, Stanley, One Mo' Time, best miniature, Baby Sunshine, sweepstakes, Mama Striepens; 2nd best in show, Marshlands, Leonard Re; 2nd best AVSA collection, Jenny Ann, Acrobat, Butterflies, Hilda Van Horn; best design, "Parade's End," sweepstakes (design), Dale Martens; best semi, Moonlight Kisses, Margaret Moon; best gesneriad, Strep. Venus, Pat Cohen.

QUAD CITIES AVS, IL — "Time To Celebrate Violets," Terri Hughes, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Dawn Michelle, Alan's Valley Girl, Optimara Little Sapphire, best in show, Dawn Michelle, 2nd best in show, Dawn Michelle, best trailer, Lil Creeper, best miniature, Dawn Michelle, best semi, Irish Angel, Terri Hughes; 2nd best AVSA collection, Splendiferous, Kiwi Dazzle, Nortex's Valentine Haven, best design, "Time Out," Jackie Jones; best gesneriad, Strep. Orion, Judi

DuPont; sweepstakes, Cel Schafer; novice award, Pride's Pink Trail, Eileen Marine.

METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS AV COUNCIL, MO —

"Violets Out of Africa," Ardath Miller, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, Granger's Wonderland, Sanibel, best in show, Fantasia, 2nd best in show, Blackjack, Mary Ann Switzer; 2nd best AVSA collection, Snuggles Delight, Magic Blue, Spring Prom, best trailer, Wood Trail, best miniature, Wood Trail, best semi, Little Pro, sweepstakes, Ardath Miller; best design, "The Great Rift Valley," Fran Russom; best gesneriad, Episcia Pink Brocade, Jackie Baumhauer.

CENTRAL JERSEY AVS, NJ — Cecelia Winfield & Dale Jasaitis, cochairmen. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Irish Angel, Snuggles, Honey Jay, best in show, Snuggles, 2nd best in show, Strawberry Lace, best semi, Snuggles, best miniature, ACA's Sakura, best gesneriad, Golden Boy, best design, "Travel & Leisure," sweepstakes, Nancy Imhof; 2nd best AVSA collection, Amigo, Prelude, Sundown, Dale Jasaitis; best trailer, Trail Along, Pat Melone.

SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER OF THE AVSA, MO —

"Violets in the Queen City," Paul E. Bellinger, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, City of Angels, Camelot Pink, Nortex's Snowkist Haven, best in show, Sport of Bobbie, 2nd best in show, City of Angels, best trailer, Sparkle Trail, sweepstakes (horticulture), Helen Bellinger; 2nd best AVSA collection, City of Angels, Cherry Ice, Camelot Pink, best miniature, Toyland, Paul Bellinger, best design, "Wilson Creek Battlefield," sweepstakes (design), Ethel Campbell; best gesneriad, Episcia, Mary Brundge.

AVS OF SAN FRANCISCO, CA — "Violet Memories,"

Gary R. Beck, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Mimi's Butterfly, Mimi's Stars, Magic Blue, 2nd best in show, Foxwood Trail, best semi, Magic Blue, Ruth Spiegel; 2nd best AVSA collection, Hall Moon Bay, Happy Cricket, French Lilac, Don Thomburg; best in show, High Tide, best trailer, Confetti Trail, best miniature, Timid Teen, best gesneriad, Episcia Helen O, sweepstakes (27 blue ribbons), June Fallaw; best design, "Violets of the Future," Sunny Rosenfeld.

AVS OF PHILADELPHIA, PA — "The African Queen,"

Enid Branson & Susan Hanna, cochairmen. Winners: Best in show, Cactus Rose, best semi, Sarita, Rita Perzeproski; 2nd best in show, Ballet's Fairy Queen, Judith Smith; best design, "Serengeti Plain," Betsy Hansberger; best miniature, Ballet Blue Ice, Peggy DePhillipo; best gesneriad, Nematanthus Cheerio, Laura Shannon; sweepstakes, Margaret Cass.

THE AVS OF STATEN ISLAND, NY — "Hi Ho, Hi Ho, It's Off To Violets We Go," Gussie Farrice, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Mary D, Mary C, Cherry Cola, Raymond Dooley in memory of Ann Dooley; 2nd best AVSA collection, Roundabout, Splendiferous, Twilight Glo, best in show, Mary D, 2nd best in show, Wrangler's Cowboy Blue, best miniature, Sevy Levy, best semi, Sweet Treat, sweepstakes (120 blue ribbons), Raymond Dooley; best design, "Enchanted Forest," Kathy Holler; best trailer, Frosty Trail, Lee Guyliada; best gesneriad, Strep. Ambrad, Gussie Farrice.

AVS OF GREATER MONTREAL, CANADA — "Fashion Show of Violets," Dick Harriman, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Little Pro, Little Katherine, Beginner's Luck, best design, "Bridal Fashions," sweepstakes, Greta Durand; 2nd best AVSA collection, Rob's Blue Light, Snuggles, Mini Mine, Irene Henry; best in show, Granddaddy, 2nd best in show, Canadian Moonlite, best semi, Snuggles, Theresa Decelles; best trailer & miniature, Teeny Bopper, Charles Laws; best gesneriad,



Nite Bloomers (CA) recent show winners were Dorothy Gawienowski, who won the Tricolor for her Best In Show, Snow Rose, and Cathy Cornibe who won Best Seedling, Tricolor and Best Design for her terrarium "Jungle Cruise," 2nd Best Design and Sweepstakes In Design. Dorothy also won Second Best In Show and the Gold AVSA Collection. The theme for the show was "Disney's Violets."

Chirita Sinensis, Roland Chevrefils.

THE STAMPEDE CITY AVS, CALGARY CANADA — "Love Those Violets," Ingrid Nelson, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Sho-Mee, Fran Fleischman; 2nd best in show, Ginger Spice, Helen Fowler; Junior best in show, Kuddly Red, Sue Wonnacott; best trailer, Breezy Blue, Helen Fowler; sweepstakes, Hennie Vandam.

NITE BLOOMERS, CA — "Disney's Violets," Barbara Szajowski, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, Something Special, Boyce Edens, best in show, Snow Rose, 2nd best in show, Something Special, Dorothy Gawienski; 2nd best AVSA collection, Lovely Lady, City of Angels, Aztec Queen, best miniature, Bryte Beginnings, Sandy Packman; best design, "Jungle Cruise," Cathy Comibe; best trailer, Confetti Trail, sweepstakes, Donna Barnett; best semi, Beginner's Luck, Linda Ferguson; best gesneriad, E. Green Jade, Irene Rhodas.

TUSTANA AVS, CA — "Violets Take a Vacation," Denzel (Dee) M. Probert, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Kiss't, 2nd best in show, Luscious Lady, best design, best semi, Irish Angel, sweepstakes, Honey Geck; best trailer, Wood Trail, Ralph Breden; best gesneriad, Isla, Dee Probert.

THE VENTURA COUNTY AVS, CA — "Feast Your Eyes on Violets — A Gourmet's Delight," Florence Naylor, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Granger's Wonderland, best AVSA collection, Something Special, Mary D. Granger's Wonderland, Sherry Plisky; 2nd best in show, Rosebud Trail, best plant arrangement, "Chef's Salad," sweepstakes (tie, 34 blue ribbons), Ann Wang; best miniature, Dawn Michelle, sweepstakes (tie, 34 blue ribbons), Catherine Myers; best semi, Magic Blue, Floyd Lawson; best design, "Jungle Stew," Robert Seaton; best gesneriad, Episicia Cleopatra, Jean Shipley.

BAY STATE AVS, MA — "Violets in America's Wonderlands," Olga Z. MacLean, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Joelle, Wisteria, Tail Spin, best in show, Wisteria, 2nd best in show, Blue Boy, Jan Dexter, 2nd best AVSA collection, Mary D. Shadow Waltz, Optimara Colorado, sweepstakes, Harlan Montgomery; best design, "Cape Cod Natural Seashore," Marcia Balonis; best miniature, Little Diamond, Eleanor Ormerod; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Little Gem, Dolores Wilson.

DIXIE AVS, GA — "Violets Cover Dixie Like The Dew," Laura Walker, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Rob's Sno Blossom, Sun Pumpkin, Homer's Hospitality, Ramona Hodges; 2nd best AVSA collection, Pride of Enterprise, Granger's Wonderland, Old Dominion Sparkler, best gesneriad, Columnnea Early Bird, Neal Brewer; best in show, Red Ferrari, best semi, Lovely Linda, Alice McGhee; 2nd best in show, Marcus, Marie Burns; best design, "Flight," Bob L. Green; best miniature, Lucky Lass, Ellie Jordan; sweepstakes, Porter Temple.

UNPREDICTABLES AVS OF BLUE SPRINGS, MO — "Springtime — Violet Time," Sue I. Hill, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Snuggles, Magic Blue, Shutter Bug, best semi, Snuggles, Dennis Stevens; 2nd best AVSA collection, Snow Rose, Something Special, Dancetime, best in show, Kimi, Beulah Cupito; 2nd best in show, Wrangler's Winter Holiday, best design, "Welcome Sweet Springtime," best miniature, Surprise Party, best gesneriad, Sinningia Speciosa hybrid, sweepstakes (36 blue ribbons), Sue I. Hill; best trailer, Linda Darnell, Charlotte Livingston.

COPPER CITY AVS, NY — "Communicating with Violets," Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Hart & Mrs. Ruth Mirin, cochairmen. Winners: Best in show, Aspen Pink, sweepstakes (52 blue ribbons), best semi, Rob's Ink Storm, best AVSA collection, Santa

Anita, Wonderland, Nanuka, Annabelle & Wilson Hart; best miniature, Toy Joy, 2nd best AVSA collection, Nanuka, Tennessee, Lady Diana, Marion and John Mennig; best design, Marilyn Schaller.

SUBURBAN AV FRIENDS, CA — "Violet Express," Harriette Poss, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Blue Magic, Hug a Lug, Rob's Blue Light, best in show, Red Farari, best trailer, Always Pink, best gesneriad, K. Trinidad, sweepstakes, Harriette Poss; 2nd best in show, Peggy, Barbara Sheldon; best design, "Violet Express," Thelma Walther; best miniature, Mickey Mouse, Helen Robertson; best semi, Topmost, Jane Clay.

HEART OF MISSOURI AVS — "Show Me Violets," Patrick Chrouser, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Something Special, Boca Grande, Splendiferous, best in show, Something Special, 2nd best in show, Pretty Please, sweepstakes, Patrick Chrouser; 2nd best AVSA collection, Something Special, Canadian Sunset, Splendiferous, best design, "Missouri Wildlife," best gesneriad, Strep. Mama, Diane Chrouser; best trailer, Galaxy Trail, Dorothy Anderson; best miniature, Lil Tease, best semi, Diet Cola, Peggy Payne.

MILWAUKEE AVS, WI — "Milwaukee Violet Fest," Mrs. Arthur W. Geisler, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Wrangler's Texas Blues, Wrangler's Pink Bandit, Wrangler's Pink Patches, 2nd best in show, High Tone Mama, sweepstakes (24 blue ribbons), Sherrin Pratt; best in show, Fairy Queen, best design, Mrs. Loraine Schiebel; best trailer, Little Creeper, Mrs. Cathy Dermody; best miniature, Little Darling, Mrs. Helen Geisler; best semi, Magic Blue, Mrs. Marie Maas; best gesneriad, Strep. Maason's White, Mrs. Joan Wilson.

TIDEWATER AVS, VA — "Around the World with Violets," Mrs. Carol Van, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Spring Prom, Precious Pink, Magic Blue, 2nd best in show, Precious Pink, best semi, Precious Pink, Cathy Cox; best in show, Tommie Lou, Frances Griffin; best design, "Hawaiian Paradise," best trailer, Teeny Bopper, best miniature, Toy Castle, best gesneriad, Marstens Flame, sweepstakes, Cathy Carter.

FIRST HALIFAX AVS, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA — "Musical Memories," Mrs. Audrey Moir, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Tensie, Granger's Wonderland, O. Barbados, best in show, Ernest Fisher, best semi, Beginner's Luck,



They Grow Them Big in Baltimore — Members of the Baltimore AVC proudly display their club project plant, Majestic. Marle Burns, 2nd Best in Show; Diane Good, Best Club Project; Margaret Harcourt, AVSA Purple Rosette; Janet Haag, Best in Show; and Elvin Snowden.

sweepstakes, Kay Anderson; 2nd best AVSA collection, Winnie Wee, Minnie Mine, Dragon Fire, best trailer, Lil Creeper, Ina Beaver; best design, "Far Away Places," Audrey Moir; 2nd best in show, Dance Time, Mary Christie; best miniature, Little Jester, Charles Laws; best gesneriad, C. Mary Anne, Helen Beaver.



Eden Luntao with the best Redlands Precious, a new introduction from Hortense Pittman. In honor of Redlands centennial year, the Town and Country AVS of Redlands, CA distributed this new variety to its members to grow and show at their annual open house.

More Named Varieties for Kansas City Convention

The following named varieties have been sent in by Awards Chairman Anne Jantzen, for awards at the Kansas City Convention in 1989. They are: 'Emilie Savage,' 'Frances Young,' 'Magic Blue,' 'Precious Pink,' and 'Little Pro.'

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11 ILLINOIS — Glenview/North Shore AVS' show/sale, "African Violets and Treasures of the Sea," Chicago Botanic Garden, Lake Cook Rd. off Edens Expressway, Glencoe. Sept. 10, noon - 5 p.m.; Sept. 11, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Public invited, parking is \$2.00. Barbara Goodsell, show chairman.

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11 TENNESSEE — Nashville AVC's show/sale in conjunction with Tennessee Gesneriad Society's show/sale, Cheekwood Botanical Gardens, Forrest Park Dr., Nashville. Non-members invited to enter. Open to public. Sept. 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sept. 11, noon - 5 p.m. For information: Porter Temple, 6221 Temple Rd., Franklin, TN 37064, 615-646-1922.

SEPTEMBER 16 & 17 NORTH CAROLINA — AVS of Charlotte's show/sale, Outlet Square Mall, S. Independence Blvd. and Kings Dr., Charlotte. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., both days. Elizabeth Ashley, 704-563-2210, show chairman.

SEPTEMBER 17 CALIFORNIA — Diablo Valley AV Growers' display/sale, Willows Shopping Center, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Concord. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free admission. Potting demonstrations and answering questions.

SEPTEMBER 24 MARYLAND — Baltimore AVC's Judges School, Loch Raven Baptist Church (8600 Loch Raven Blvd., Towson), Mary Boland, teacher. Lecture - 9 a.m.; test following a brown bag lunch. Fee for both lecture and test is \$5.00. For more information contact Sharon Toolan, 2008 Wildlife Dr., Baltimore 21207 (301-298-6493) or Janet Haag, 524 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212 (301-377-5085).

SEPTEMBER 24 & 25 ILLINOIS — AVS of Northern Illinois' display/sale, Chicago Botanic Garden, East Greenhouse Gallery, Lake-Cook Rd., East of Edens Expressway, Glencoe. Both days, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Parking, \$2. Mille Aske, chairman.

SEPTEMBER 24 & 25 CALIFORNIA — East Bay AVS of Oakland's show/sale, "Violets by the Lake," Lakeside Garden Center, Lake Merritt Park, Oakland. Sept. 24, 2 - 6 p.m.; Sept. 25, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission. For information: 689-6909.

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1 TEXAS — Alpha AVS of Dallas' clinic/sale, Big Town Mall, Big Town Blvd. & Interstate 20, Mesquite. Sept. 29, 30, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Oct. 1, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information call Grace Davis, 214-278-0389.

OCTOBER 1 NEBRASKA — Omaha AVS' exhibit/sale, Regency Fashion Court, south of West Dodge Rd. and 102nd St., Regency Parkway. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OCTOBER 1 & 2 MICHIGAN — North Oakland AVC's display/sale, Bordine's Better Blooms greenhouses, 1985 S. Rochester Rd. (2 miles north of M-59), Rochester. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OCTOBER 1 & 2 TEXAS — Spring Branch AVC, in conjunction with the Houston Arboretum, will present their display/sale, Houston Arboretum, 4501 Woodway, Houston. Sale hours: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., on Oct. 1, noon - 5 p.m., Oct. 2.

Questions answered and lecture, "The Basics of African Violet Growing," Oct. 1, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sun. lecture, 2 p.m.

OCTOBER 1 & 2 OHIO — Ohio State AVS' show/sale, "Violets Internationale," Kingwood Center, Mansfield. Plenty of free parking and free admission. Cathy Black, show chairman.

OCTOBER 1 & 2 CONNECTICUT — Naugatonic AVS' exhibit/sale, Boothe Memorial Hall, Main St. (Putney) Stratford. (Exit 53S off the Merritt Parkway.) Both days, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public invited, free admission, free parking. Door prizes awarded each day.

OCTOBER 7 - 9 COLORADO — AVS of Denver, Chapter I's show/sale, "Memories of the 40 years - 1948-1988," Westminster Mall, 88th & Sheridan Blvd., during mall hours. Public invited, free admission. Janice Sorensen, show chairman.

OCTOBER 7 - 9 WISCONSIN — Wisconsin Council of AV Clubs 25th show/sale, "Wisconsin's 25th Violet Show of Shows," Park Plaza Mall, downtown Oshkosh. Oct. 7, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Oct. 8, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Oct. 9, noon - 5 p.m. Kevin Degner, 1741 Iowa St., Oshkosh 54901, 414-426-3764, show chairman.

OCTOBER 14 & 15 TEXAS — First AVS of Dallas' sale, Richardson Square Mall, Belt Line and Plano Road.

OCTOBER 15 & 16 TEXAS — First Austin AVS' show/sale, Zilker Botanical Gardens, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., both days. Public invited, free admission.

OCTOBER 15 & 16 TEXAS — AV Study Club of Houston's, show/sale, "Go For The Gold," Hermann Park Garden Center, Houston. Oct. 15, 2 - 6 p.m.; Oct. 16, noon - 5 p.m. For more information, call show chairman, Gerri Goins, 11030 Silkwood Dr., Houston 77031, 713-772-3197.

OCTOBER 21 & 22 OREGON — Portland AVS' sale, Eastport Shopping Center, east end of mall, 4050 SE 82nd Ave. (near Holgate Blvd.), Portland. Oct. 21, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Oct. 22, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Education table and demonstrations. Betty Mestrovich, sale chairman; Fran Skorepa, president.

OCTOBER 21 - 23 TENNESSEE — Memphis AVS' show/sale, "African Jewels," Goldsmith Garden Center. Iona Pair, president.

OCTOBER 22 CALIFORNIA — Heartland AVS' show/sale, "The Versatility of Violets," Masonic Temple, 695 Ballentyne, El Cajon. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free parking & admission.

OCTOBER 27 - 29 SOUTH AFRICA — Transvaal African Violet Society's show/sale, "Out of Africa-Violets," emphasis on species. For more information contact: Joan Halford, show chairman, Box 760, PYRAMID, 0120 Transvaal, Republic of South Africa.

OCTOBER 27 - 30 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA — The Southern California AV Council's first mini convention, "The Magic of Violets," Radisson Suite Hotel, 2101 W. Vineyard, Oxnard. Show/sale, open to public, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Oct. 29 and 9 a.m. - noon, Oct. 30. A bus trip, workshops, and banquet are also planned. For further information call Marcia Shaver, 805-495-0218 or Mary Blancher, 818-363-6222. Florence Naylor, president.

OCTOBER 28 & 29 NORTH CAROLINA — Green Thumb AVS of Nashville's, show/sale, Tarrytown Mall, Rocky Mount. Regular mall hours. Free admission. Tom Batts & Lucille Prutsman, cochairmen.

OCTOBER 29 & 30 FLORIDA — AV Council of Florida's show/sale, "Violet Treasures," Winter Haven Mall. Liz Farnsworth and Carol Schreck, co-chairmen. For information call 813-646-4895 or 813-533-7288.

OCTOBER 29 & 30 KANSAS — Mid-America AVS of

Kansas City, MO and the Missouri Valley AV Council's joint show/sale, "Violets — A Royal Treat," Rodeway Inn, I-435 & Metcalf Ave., Overland Park, Kansas. Oct. 29, 12:30 - 5 p.m.; Oct. 30, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sue Hill and Grace McCummin, show cochairmen.

OCTOBER 29 & 30 CONNECTICUT — Nutmeg State AVS' show/sale, Howard Johnson Hotel, I-95 at Exit #6, 135 Harvard Ave., Stamford. Oct. 29, 1 - 5 p.m.; Oct. 30, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Door prizes, free admission, ample parking. Mrs. Judy Stock, 203-693-4386, show chairman.

NOVEMBER 4 - 6 MINNESOTA — AVS of Minnesota's 38th show/sale, "Violets In Wonderland," Signal Hills Mall, S. Robert St., W. St. Paul, during regular mall hours. Opal Hunter & Jude Neumann, cochairmen.

NOVEMBER 12 GEORGIA — Chattahoochee Valley AVS' show/sale, Columbus Square Mall, Macon Rd., Columbus. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public is invited. Polly Crutchfield, chairman.

AVSA Booster Fund

*Mrs. Linda A. Neumann
11620 Mapleridge Drive
North Royalton, OH 44133-2904*

Support the Booster Fund with a colorful fall donation. Do it now!

Metropolitan AVS, IL	\$7.50
in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Schonwise	
Potomac Council of AV Judges, MD	
in memory of Emily Holtzman	25.00
Bette Wink, WI	
in loving memory of Adeline Krogman	10.00
Mary Boland, VA	
in memory of Emily Holtzman	15.00
AVS of Greater New York, NY	15.00

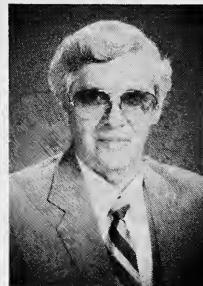
Tinari Greenhouses Offering Cash Award For Membership

Once again Tinari Greenhouses is offering \$25 to the individual who acquires the most (over 10) new AVSA memberships during the year 1988, which will be presented at the 1989 Kansas City Convention.

Send complete list of names and addresses to the Awards Chairman, Mrs. J. K. Jantzen, 2725 Katrina Way, Mountain View, CA 94040, by March 1, 1989.

AVSA AFFILIATES

*Bill Foster
Affiliate Chairman
3610 Gray Drive
Mesquite, TX 75150*



Summer is just about gone and our plants will enjoy the cool weather of fall — at least here in Texas they will. Many of our Affiliates "recess" for the summer, so September is the beginning of their new year, with a new slate of officers. Let's discuss some problems from the past year that perhaps can be improved on, or hopefully, avoided in the future. Speaking of new officers, I received letters from a number of you after the Affiliates and the new officers were published in the AVM, telling me that your club was omitted or that the wrong officers were listed. To avoid these errors in the future, be sure you pay your club's renewal fee and fill out the form to list your new officers. Mail the form to the AVSA office. If the names of the officers are mailed to me, it only causes a delay. I have to forward them to the AVSA office. It works better if the office gets the information first, to enter into the computer. The office supplies me with an updated list of Affiliates and officers for my records.

Another item we might discuss is the Standard Show Award Score Sheet. You would be astounded at the number of SSA Score Sheets that are returned with errors or that are incomplete. The shows from the past spring brought a lot of reasons for correspondence. When correspondence is required, it causes a delay in a club getting an award they are anxious to receive. SHOW CHAIRMEN, be sure that the information is complete on the SSA form, when you give it to the judges. If the information is not there, the judges have the right to refuse to judge your show for the Standard Show Award. This might be considered a way for the judges to punish the club for being lax in furnishing the correct information. Seems a little unfair, doesn't it? The club has no way of "returning the favor," because they have no way of knowing if the judges make an error. Fear Not! If you are "short changed" or "overpaid" by the judges, I'll find it. I do not mind this duty at all when a club is awarded a rosette they didn't expect, but it is not

an easy or pleasant task to write a show chairman and tell them the rosette will not be sent because of a judges error. As judges, we need to be more careful in calculating the score of the SSA form. We need to make sure all items are filled out and one judge has signed as being responsible for the clerical correctness of the form. About half of the score sheets returned during the spring were incomplete. In more instances than that, no judge had signed as responsible for clerical correctness. If this is left blank and correspondence is needed, I write to the first judge on the list. As show chairmen, we need to be sure that the information we have given to the judges is complete and correct. I think every error that could be made, was made, during our spring shows. I received everything from score sheets with no judges signatures to a show that scored 108 points! A number of packets were returned without the Collection Score Sheets.

While on the subject of Collection Sheets, I hope you noticed a rule change in the Shows and Judges column concerning collections. Under AVSA rules to be included in the schedule, on page 43 of the Handbook, rule 10 should be changed to read, "Only AVSA members are eligible to enter the AVSA Collection Classes, Only one collection may be entered by an exhibitor." This had always been a rule but was omitted with the latest revision of the Handbook. We have a few very alert exhibitors out there! A couple found this "loophole" and jumped at the chance to win two collection rosettes. Also, I had a couple of packets returned with a note that said, "We did not have enough judges to judge for the SSA, but we did have enough to judge the collections." If you have enough to judge the collections, you also have enough to judge for the SSA. You only need one panel of judges. Use all judges if only one panel is used and a panel of five if you have used more than one panel.

Now if some of you folks feel that I am pointing

a finger directly *at you*, when discussing these errors, I'm not. Hopefully, we are all human, and none of us are error free. I sure make my fair share and you are usually kind enough to let me know when I do. And speaking of MY errors, if you earned a Standard Show Achievement Award (blue), check to be sure that the blue card you received does not read like a green card. Some blue cards were printed showing "90 or above" and I missed it. Check your card and if it is in error, return it and I will send the correct one. If you were fortunate enough to receive the SSAA you are certainly entitled to the correct card!

A bit of good news for council, state, and regional groups. You may have picked this information up from the Shows and Judges Column, but it is important enough to repeat. The SSA form has been revised in order to give these groups a better opportunity to win the SSA or the SSAA. The AVSA Standard Show Award Point Score Sheet (SSA) will now read as follows:

1. Exhibits & Exhibitors

a. Number of exhibits in horticulture & design divisions

6 points if number of exhibits is 4 times club membership

6 points if number of exhibits is 4 times state, regional, or council membership in attendance.

b. Percentage of members exhibiting

4 points if 50% of club members exhibit

4 points if 25% of registered members attending state, regional, or council groups with over 100 members exhibits (adjust points for less)

Good luck with your fall shows!

More Kansas City Convention Awards

Major awards for the Amateur Division from the clubs in the immediate Kansas City area which are involved in hosting the 1989 AVSA Convention in Kansas City, include:

Best in Show, \$100, Missouri Valley AV Council; 2nd Best in Show, \$50, Missouri Valley AV Council; 3rd Best in Show, \$25, Lawrence AV Club; Best Semiminiature, \$50, Mid-America AV Society; Best Miniature, \$50, Mid-America AV Society; Best Trailer, \$50, AV Club of Greater Kansas City; Best Design, \$50, AV Club of Greater Kansas City; Best New Cultivar, \$50, AV Club of Greater Kansas

City; Sweepstakes-Horticulture, \$50, Unpredictables AV Society of Blue Springs.

These awards are in addition to any other awards.

A Place To Start

Bev Promersberger

Membership & Promotion Committee

We would all like to see a larger magazine with more care and culture articles and photographs of our new and favorite hybrids. This would be possible with an increased membership in AVSA. A good beginning toward this membership drive is with our local clubs and societies. A local club that is 100% in AVSA members would result in more educated members, more enthusiasm, and better shows for the club.

Our society made a special effort this year to encourage each of its members to be a member of AVSA.

First, an AVSA representative in our club is very important in keeping our members current with any information that is helpful to all of us. Our representative is an elected office which we feel is more prestigious and carries more responsibility than an appointed one.

Second, a past issue of the African Violet Magazine is given to each new member of our club along with a culture folder and application for an AVSA membership. As the president, I personally saw this as a way of meeting each new member and inviting them to join AVSA. (The back issues of the magazine are available from the main office for the cost of the postage.)

Third, we have set aside a few minutes at each meeting for the AVSA representative (or other members) to point out articles or magazine contents that supplement our program or pertain to the interests or activities of our members.

Fourth, a club photographer was appointed to take slides of our meetings, activities, our annual show, and highlights of the AVSA convention in Dallas. These were all put together into a slide program for our final meeting of the year, showing that AVSA is an important part of our club.

Hopefully, our ideas might suggest ways for you to encourage 100% AVSA membership in your club or society. More important, some of you may have some suggestions to share with us. What do you do to encourage your club members to join AVSA?

Please share them with us. Our joint effort can be a step toward a better African Violet Magazine for you and a more educated club for many of us.

Please send any ideas or suggestions to: Bev Promersberger, 8530 Pappas Way, Annandale, VA 22003.

South African Member Would Like to Correspond

(Editor's Note: Seldom do I print letters to the editor; however, Mr. Otto would like to hear from AVSA members, and I thought running his letter would give him the opportunity.)

Dear Jane,

Thank you very much for the March/April 1988 AVM, I just received. The article from my fellow South African violet lover, Joan Halford, was quite interesting.

I am also in love with the species, as Joan. Recently I visited a big nursery, through the course of my work, and could you imagine my surprise when I saw that well known plant on a side table, totally neglected. Now I know how Baron von Saint Paul felt when he discovered it in 1892. Eventually, I got some plantlets of the following species: Saintpaulia diffcilis, S. Magungensis, S. ntida, S. orbicularis, S. pendula, S. rupicola, S. teitensis and S. velutina. Last week I was presented with Saintpaulia ionantha by a member of my society.

With our 2nd annual show on 23-24 September 1988, all nine varieties will be on show in full bloom. I would like to hear from any AVM readers who have species in their collection. Maybe, just maybe, we could swap some plants in the future.

Violet greetings,

Lukas M. Otto, Chairman
West Rand African Violet Society
P. O. Box 309
Muldersdrift 1747
Rep. of South Africa

Don't Forget To Order
AVSA Library Material
From AVSA Office.

Albany, IL 5th Graders Learn About Violets



The fifth graders at Albany Grade School in Albany, IL were recently introduced to the fascinating world of African violets.

I am an amateur hybridizer who was in need of finding good homes for some extra seedlings. My mother is an elementary school teacher, and suggested that her students would be more than happy to adopt a violet.

In the classroom, I set up each child with the materials to pot his or her own seedling by the wicking/constant feed method. The children provided their own plastic butter dishes with lids for reservoirs.

Many of the students asked for second and third seedlings (of which I had more than enough), and some even wanted to know about the mechanics of hybridization. I had a real sense that the future of African violets will be in good hands!

Article by Nanette De Voe
Photo by Maxine De Voe

Support your AVSA
Booster Fund,
Boyce Edens Research Fund,
& Building Fund

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



The AVSA Board of Directors has authorized two changes that will affect this committee:

1. As of January 1, 1989, the format and size of the Registration form will be changed. The card will be replaced by a heavy sheet on bond paper, 8-1/2" x 11", and will be expanded to include all the different blossom and foliage types. This change will help to save money on postage, and a special envelope will no longer be required.

2. Effective January 1, 1989, parentage will be required on all requests for registration.

Reservations are \$1.00 for a period of two years, effective from date received. Registrations are \$5.00.

Registrations

Dottie Wilson, Bryan, TX

*Janice Ann - Large - Semidouble medium pink with darker eye. Dark blue-green plain, quilted, glossy foliage with red reverse. #6877 4/25/88
*This Bud's Mine - Large - Double ruffled dark blue sometimes with a touch of pink. Dark blue-green quilted, glossy foliage with red reverse. #6878 4/25/88

Capital City AVS/Nadeau, Montgomery, AL

*Martha Payne - Standard - Double ruffled dark blue. Pointed variegated foliage. #6879 5/13/88
*Wilma Culver - Standard - Single lavender two tone star with darker upper petals and slight dark edge. Pointed variegated foliage. #6880 5/13/88

Juanita May Loder, Bellevue, WA

*Vera Irene - Semiminiature - Double coral pink two tone with deep coral petal tips. Dark green quilted foliage with dark red reverse. #6881 5/14/88
*Yarrow Dawn - Semiminiature - Double ruffled pale green, lavender and white multicolor. Variegated dark green and yellow, quilted, wavy foliage.

#6882 5/14/88

David Lass, Nahant, MA

*David's Delight - Standard - Double blush pink with green petal backs. Very dark green quilted foliage with red reverse. #6883 5/26/88
*Dee Double You - Standard - Double blush pink. Dark green quilted foliage with red reverse. #6884 5/26/88

Registration Corrections

*Nortex's Snowkist Haven - #6046 - Please change blossom description from double to SINGLE.
*Little Doll - Sorano - #6741 - Please change size from miniature to SEMIMINIATURE.

Reservations

Joen Gehr, Land O' Lakes, WI

* Crystal Vision * Dirty Dancing * Easter Sunrise * Fitchie * Night Shift * Omen * Silkscreen *

Jackie Muster, Massillon, OH

* Crystal Raindrops * Geisha Girl * Ghost Rider * Night Fire * Roy's Beautiful Dreamer * Shirocka * Winter Whisper *

David Lass, Nahant, MA

* Dunder * Kingsford * Miffed Muriel *

Joan Watts, Colo, IA

* Amy's Pink Delight *

Bernard Rosen, Astoria, NY

* Grape Nectar *

Barbara Elkin, Auburn, CA

* Mistress Evil *

Name Reservation Renewals

Barbara Elkin, Auburn, CA

* Mistress Pepper * Mistress Raven * Mistress Scally * Royal Crest * Ruby Celebration * Ruby Jubilation * Sequel * Skylark *

Debbie Steinman, Sedona, AZ

* Debbie's Delight * Diamond Eyes * Fritz * ****

Reservation Corrections

Joen Gehr, Land O' Lakes, WI

Joie de Viere: change to Joie de Vivre

Heavy Metal: change to Heavy Mettle

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson

2030 E. Amherst Avenue

Denver, CO 80210

Since we have successfully scaled the first rung of the ladder toward our Building Fund, we are ready for the next step. Our next goal has been set at \$60,000.

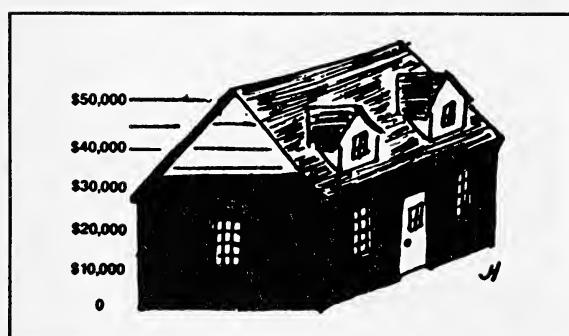
What inspirations have you to spur our membership to continue the good work? Since this is OUR joint effort, let us hear more of your creative imaginings. They just might be the answer!

"All together the links make the chain;
All together the cents make the dollar;
All together the bricks make the wall;
All together the shingles make the roof;
All together the soldiers make the army;
All together AVSA Building Fund contributors
CAN ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS!"

Anonymous

April, 1988 (Donations received from March 25 through April 25)
Al Rosen, Canada \$4.50
Keith Hussen, Canada 25.00
Steuben County AVS, IN 10.00
Mrs. John (Katherine) Connolly, TX 50.00
First AVS of Las Vegas, NV 25.00
Mrs. Edward (Lois) Buschke, NJ
in memory of a dear friend, Ann Dooley 20.00
Bergen County AVS, NJ
\$50 from club; \$50 for judging fees to Nancy Imhoff, Mary

Curtain, Charlotte Lynn, Jane McAfoos, Kay Lyons, Hilda Vandemeer, Flora Semen, Dale Jasaitis, Cedelia Winfield; \$25 speaker's fee to Nancy Imhoff and \$10 sale of plants donated by Nancy Imhoff	135.00
Elinor C. Skelton, VA	20.00
AVC of Burlington County, NJ in lieu of speaker's fee to Geo. Smith	25.00
Dorothy Ross Grimsby, CA in memory of Edna L. Garrett	5.00
Edna Rourke, CT	20.00
Leticia Potter, FL	100.00
AVS of Lower Bucks County, PA from Mary Rose Smith to Janet Riemer for leaves	5.00
Don L. Thomburg, CA	10.00
Richmond AVS, VA travel expenses for judges: Mary Boland, Laurene Jones, Opal Nurgianes and Elinor Skelton	25.00
Judith A. Stock, CT	25.00
Mary A. Goode, CA	20.00
Fleur De Lis AVC, MO dissolution of club	50.00
AVS of Northern Illinois, Inc.	25.00
Mrs. H. N. (E) Hansen, PA for needlepoint work (checks of \$14.75, \$27.00, \$19.00, \$24.25, \$8.25 and \$300) "E" has supplied materials, work and orders for future donations.	393.25
Union County Chapter AVS, NJ, Tristate AV Council, NJ, & Tinari Greenhouses, PA for donation of Max Maas' leaves (consisting of 2 checks, \$15 & \$205.50)	220.50
Loose change from little house (bank in lobby)	17.00
Joan Halford, South Africa	5.00
AVS of Montrose, CA	25.00
Potomac Council of AV Judges, VA	30.00
Jean L. Robine, OH	20.00
Pasadena AVS, CA dissolution of club	455.79
Anonymous, NY	20.00
Illinois AVS, Inc.	10.00
Mrs. Lizeta Tenney Hamilton, NJ this came as her fulfillment of her generous offer of \$1 f or each \$2 - with deadline of \$20,000 which was reached by convention time in Dallas. We are most grateful. 10,000.00	
AVC of Trenton, NJ	



in lieu of speaker's fee to Nancy Imhoff	15.00
Aloha H. Rhodes, TX	25.00
Esther E. Mason, NY	20.00
Mrs. Hisako (Corky) Reichmann, AK	50.00
Virginia F. Linson, TX	25.00
M. B. Slaughter, TX	100.00
Mrs. Willard (Clara) Allen, CA	50.00
Union County Chapter AVSA, NJ	
in lieu of judges' expenses to Betty Callahan, Nancy Imhoff, Dale Jasaitis, Charlotte E. Lynn, K. Lyons, Frank Senna, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Turnbull & Cecelia Winfield, annual show	45.00
Florence B. Peck, CA	2.00
Glendale Chapter of AVS, CA	25.00
Total for the month	\$12,153.04
TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	\$32,813.66

Since the March 25th report, copies of Pauline Bartholomew's book, *Growing To Show*, have gone to: Balboa Park AVS, CA; Stanislays County AVS, CA; Fox Valley AVC, WI.

If you have qualified, get in your requests for the remaining five books. See page 27 of the Sept./Oct. 1987 AVM.

The requests for Anne Tinari's book, *OUR AFRICAN VIOLETHERTAGE*, are coming in rapidly since her offer in the March/April 1988 AVM, page 24. This valuable little book will not be reprinted. The last ten copies will go to those who act promptly, for the first 40 have gone out quickly in the two months since this offer was made. Do not lose your chance for this delightful, informative book. Receiving the books were: Keith Hussen, Canada; Mrs. John (Katherine) Connolly, TX; The First AVS of Las Vegas, NV; Mrs. Edward (Lois) Buschke, NJ; Bergen County AVS, NJ; Elinor C. Skelton, VA; Mrs. Vivian C. Hiltz, CT (donation by Edna Rourke); Leticia Potter, FL; Judith A. Stock, CT; Mary A. Goode, CA; AVS of Northern Illinois, Inc.; AVS of Montrose, CA; Potomac Council of AV Judges, PA; Mrs. Jean L. Robine, OH; Aloha H. Rhodes, TX; Esther E. Mason, NY; Mrs. Hisako (Corky) Reichmann, AK; Virginia F. Linsen, TX; M. B. Slaughter, TX; Mrs. Clara L. Allen, CA; Glendale Chapter of AVS, CA.

May, 1988 (Donations received from April 25 through May 25)
 Charlene Francis, FL 20.00
 Bloomin Violets, TX 121.73
 Nell-Sue Tyson, CO

award at spring show for best CO hybridized plant 10.00
 Don L. Thomburg, CA 15.00
 AVS of Lower Bucks County, PA
 in lieu of judges expenses for: Kay Lyons, Carolyn Shaw, Flora Semen, Bessie Pyle, Hilda Vander Meer, Frank Senna, Carol Cattlett, Marie Waugh and Betty Gregg 45.00
 Marie and Howard Burns, MD 25.00
 Cavalier AVS Club of St. Louis, MO 10.00
 Helen E. Erickson, IL 10.00
 Barrington Bloomers, IL 25.00
 Riverside AV/Gesneriad Workshop, CA

club disbanded 15.00
 New York City AVS, Inc.

spring show judges, Gwenn Worth & Mary Curtin 9.00
 AVS of Philadelphia, PA

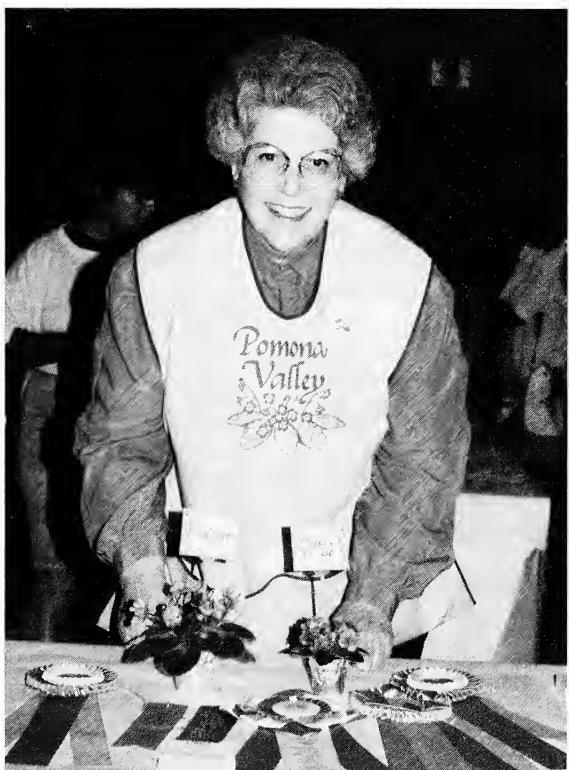
in lieu of speaker's fee and slide program given by Anne & Frank Tinari 75.00
 Central Jersey AVS, NJ
 in lieu of traveling expense for judges for show 10.00

AVS of North Jersey, NJ	
in lieu of judges' expenses for spring show - Bill & Kay Lyons, Margaret Cass, Laura Shannon, Jane McAfoos, Flora Semen, Mary Curtin, Hilda Vander Meer & Betty Callahan	25.00
The AVS of Staten Island, NY	
in lieu of speech on "Maas Legacy of Violets," by Janet Riemer	40.00
Janet Riemer, NJ	
program on "Maas Legacy of Violets" given to Nutmeg State AVS of CT	50.00
Sweet Water AVS, NY	
in lieu of travel expense for judges - Nancy Imhof & Jill Fisher	15.00
I. Lorraine Pierce, TX	100.00
Omaha AVS, NE	
formerly Metropolitan AVS of Omaha	100.00

Total for month of May \$720.73

TOTAL OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS \$33,534.39

Since the last report, the following books have been mailed: Copies of Pauline's Bartholomew's book, *Growing To Show*, have gone to: Old Dominion AVS, VA; AVS of Pensacola, FL. Copies of Anne Tinari's book, *Our African Violet Heritage*, have gone to: Charlene Francis, FL; Bloomin Violets, TX; Marie & Howard Burns, MD; Barrington Bloomers, IL; I. Lorraine Pierce, TX; Omaha AVS, NE.



Iris Keating won Best Semiminiature, Pay Dirt, and Best Miniature, Mickey Mouse, at the annual Show of the Pomona Valley AVS in California.

Kansas City Convention - Tours Preview

*Janet Wickell
Local Tours Chairman*

Have you ever thought it would be great fun to see the sites of a beautiful city on an English double-decker bus? Well, you can — and you won't need to travel to London to do it — because that's one of the tours we are planning for the 43rd Annual AVSA Convention to be held in Kansas City, MO, May 22-28, 1989. The city tour includes many Kansas City landmarks, including the Country Club Plaza, Historic Westport, a view of several of our lovely fountains and parks, and even KC's world famous stockyards!

Right next door to Kansas City is Independence, Missouri, the home of our 33rd President, Harry S. Truman. At the Truman Library you can browse through a fascinating collection of memorabilia from Mr. Truman's days in public office. An exact replica of the Oval Office as it appeared during Mr. Truman's presidency is one popular feature at the library.

Other historic places of interest in Independence are connected with the Library by a free shuttle bus network that makes stops at eight different locations every 15 minutes. Tour the Vaile Mansion, an ornate home built in 1881. It was one of the most costly residences in the United States at that time. The house contains 30 rooms and a tower that is five

stories high! Other areas to visit in Independence are the Truman Home, the restored Jackson County Courthouse, the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, which is the former home of George Caleb Bingham, the RLDS Auditorium and Mormon Visitors Center — and many more historic sites. The town square offers a variety of antique and craft shops for those of you who may want to take home a memento of historic Independence.

Don't miss the Waldo Astoria Theatre tour. You'll see an excellent comedy theatrical production featuring nationally known performers while enjoying your evening meal.

Never leave Kansas City without a steak dinner! We'll take you to a local, family owned steakhouse with a sixty-year history of satisfied steak-eating customers.

An evening dinner cruise down the Missouri River might be what some of you are looking for. Spring is a wonderful time to see the lights of the city and enjoy the prime rib buffet on this paddlewheeler.

Weston, MO, is a small community that was founded in 1837. Over 100 of the churches, houses and farms date back to pre-Civil War days. Twenty-two square blocks of Weston are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In recent years the renewal of interest in the area has brought a revitalization of the downtown business district. The area houses antique shops, craft shops, small museums and other places we're sure you'll find interesting. While we're in Weston we'll also visit the McCormick Distillery, the oldest continually operating distillery in the country. Lunch will be at a unique restaurant that is housed in one of the town's oldest buildings.

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art has extensive collections representing all areas and periods of artistic expression, including Oriental, European, Ancient, Classical, African, American, and Modern Art. We'll also visit a different kind of museum, The Miniature Museum. Scale replicas of several architectural periods are represented here. It is truly an extraordinary collection of miniatures.



For our horticultural side we'll make a stop at the Loose Park Rose Garden, where 3,500 rose plantings are cared for. The garden features miniatures, hybrid teas, floribundas, and climbers in a relaxing environment. Late May is usually the perfect time to visit this garden!

This is just an introduction to many of the tours we

are planning for "KC-89." Be sure to see the final details in your January, 1989 issue of the AVSA magazine.

We know that you'll enjoy Midwestern Hospitality while you're in Kansas City next spring.

Make plans now to come and "Get the Royal Treatment!"

Commercial Display Table Winners at AVSA Dallas Convention

*Lynn Lombard
The Velvet Leaf*

The commercial display tables, Ray "Sundown" Pittman's slide program of the new introductions, and the sales room — surely these are three of the most eagerly anticipated features of AVSA's annual convention! Commercial members responded enthusiastically again this year; nearly one-third of the horticulture specimens in the show room were provided by commercial members. A Texas-size "thanks" goes to Sundown and his committee for sending convention-goers home with long "must-have" lists and "legal-limit" carry-on baggage.

As usual, years of growing and display-table experience are common to most winners. Judges are thus faced with the dilemma of selecting the "most perfect" among the perfect. Winning tables have earned the most points when ribbon awards and horticultural perfection awards are totalled on the AVSA Commercial Display Table Point-Score Sheet.

Finally, after providing the first all-miniature display table in Denver in 1978, and after displaying nearly every year since then, Hortense Pittman of Hortense's African Violets, San Antonio, Texas, can no longer quip, "Always a bridesmaid, never a bride." The celebration was doubly warranted, for not only did Hortense and Sundown take the blue rosette for best display table, they also had the best new cultivar 'Fun Run.' Another of Hortense's honeys is 'Happy Teen'; her personal "most-likely-to-be-in-demand" list includes 'Deano,' 'Teen Dream,' and 'Petite Jewel.' And when the honeymoon is over? Watch for new standards next year, but after that, the emphasis will be on minis and

trailers. Make room, trailer-lovers! With the Pittman reputation for winners, you're sure to want these!

Combining blue-ribbon plants and the artist's knack for eye-catching arrangement, Kent and Joyce Stork of Kent's Flowers, Arlington, Nebraska, took the award for second best display table. Strategically situated center-table was the judges' selection for third best new cultivar 'Garnet Halo' hybridized by Gordon Boone. Joyce suggests demand will also be great for another Boone hybrid 'Phantom Flash' and for one of the Storks' own hybrids 'Daybreak Blue.' With a tradition of being in the winners' circle, the Storks' display table is a powerful magnet which then generates a dash to the sales room.

First-time efforts rewarded Grace Davis of African Violets by Grace of Garland, Texas, with the rosette for third best display table. 'Tony's Extravaganza' was considered best on the table; however, Grace also suggests 'Alpha Charlie' and 'Alpha Gracie' for their show potential.

Honorable Mention for fourth best display table went to Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses, Dolgeville, New York. Ever-popular hybridizers Sydney and Paul Sorano suggest 'Cinnamon Girl,' 'Shock Wave,' and 'Midnight Magic' will be frequently requested. 'Space Dust,' 'Lightning Strikes,' 'Wildfire,' and 'Firewalker' were being added to many "want" lists.

Second best new cultivar was 'Frosted Whisper,' hybridized by Raymond Scott and displayed on Dottie Wilson's table. In addition to 'Frosted Whis-

per,' Dottie's favorite performers at her Violet Haven in Bryan, Texas, are 'Greg' and 'Picotee Petticoat.'

Blue-ribbon display tables were also provided by Travis' Violets, Georgia; Ray's African Violets, Texas; Swifts', Texas; Midland Violets, Minnesota; Warren's Violets, Arkansas; Volkmann Brothers, Texas; and Rob's Min-o-lets, New York.

Of the 90 entries in the Commercial Horticulture Division, top honors went to Ken Froboese, Hill Country Violets, Boerne, Texas. His gold rosette collection included 'Wee Hummer,' 'Sugar Doll,' and 'Little Pro.' With 20 blue ribbons, he earned the award for commercial sweepstakes. Ken's 'Dancin'

'Trail' also won the best trailer award.

Special awards in the Commercial Horticulture Division went to Anne and Frank Tinari, Pennsylvania, for 'White Cameo,' best new cultivar from seed or mutation; Janet Wickell, Missouri, for 'IO,' best green foliage standard; Josephine Wells, New York, for 'Sweet Treat,' best semiminiature; and Linda White, Texas, for 'Episcia Silver Skies,' best gesneriad.

Again, "thanks" go to all commercial members who participated by entering, displaying, and selling at the 1988 convention. Commercial members whole-heartedly support AVSA year 'round, but certainly most spectacularly at convention!

African Violets Used at Wedding Reception

Ethel W. Twiford

1202 Muriel St., Goldsboro, NC 27530

Recently the daughter of one of our members of First Goldsboro (NC) African Violet Society wanted to use the African violets she and her mother had raised to decorate for the daughter's wedding reception. Ruth, daughter of Reverend and Mrs. Robert L. Baldridge, desiring something non-traditional,

beautiful, and personal, preferred to reflect the interest that family and friends knew they shared.

The double heart containing a Wrangler's El Diablo was mounted on a reversed grapevine basket, encrusted with rose potpourri and displayed at the entrance to the reception on the 100-year-old communion table in the narthex of Saint Paul United Methodist Church, Goldsboro, NC.

The large driftwood design provided a setting for Pixie Blue, Sunnyvale, and Perk Up trailers enhanced with fern, sphagnum moss, reindeer moss and ivy. This was placed in front of a mirror which doubled the effect.

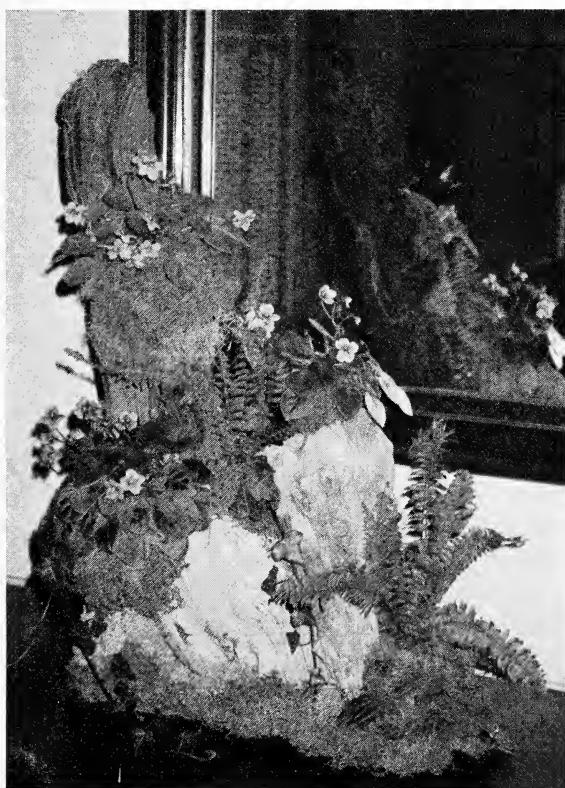
The refreshment table was centered by a double-bubble arrangement; the top bowl contained the bride's personal favorite, Ravishing Ruth, and the base bowl contained Little Clown.

A design of double, intertwined grapevine wreaths supported a large specimen of Calico Red on a natural moss base/basket.

Flanking the beautiful portrait of the bride and the hand-worked cross-stitched announcement, was a birdnest-stick basket of Precious Pink intertwined with ivy across the handle and around the base.

Other violets were used throughout the church parlor where the reception was hosted by the women of the church.

The designs and arrangements were created by Anna Level, a fellow member of the First Goldsboro African Violet Society.





KITTEN PRINTS

from the display table
at the 1988 AVSA Dallas Convention
of
RAYS'AFRICAN VIOLETS
College Station, Texas

Ask Your Hybridizer!

*Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road, #A2
Elyria, OH 44035*



Congratulations to the Lone Star State for providing us with another exciting and memorable AVSA convention. Since Dallas was home for so many years, we had the double pleasure of violets and the opportunity to visit with family and friends. This convention was special to me for another reason. The numbers of people who made the effort to search us out and express appreciation for this column was gratifying and encouraging. It is good to learn that the column has a broad appeal and is not limited just to those who hybridize. The reception and response we received in Dallas made us feel appreciated and accepted as an AVM columnist!

After the convention I had the privilege of presenting a program for the Missouri Valley AV Council which was hosted by Kent's Flowers in Arlington, Nebraska. This was another great time of getting to meet many new interesting and admirable violet people. One of the main topics of concern at this meeting was the coming AVSA convention next year in Kansas City. They are planning to give us "the Royal Treatment" in 1989. Don't dare miss it!

Q. I find that my short "jaunt" into hybridizing has made me overly critical and in a way has taken some of the joy of growing away. Rather than seeing the beauty in the plant, I am seeing the flaws. It was more pleasurable before I knew what the flaws were. Will this change as I get more experienced as a hybridizer?

A. I can appreciate your feelings at this point in your experience. Once we eat of the "tree of knowledge" in any discipline we do lose the joy of innocence. But if we persist, the joy "according to knowledge" is infinitely more rewarding. You may not be as easily impressed by "just any violet" — like you once were, but your appreciation of rare beauty and

quality, when you do find it, will be greatly multiplied.

Q. My question is about pollen. What age blossom should I use to take the pollen for my crosses?

A. I think I can offer you some new information. Most of the hybridizing articles I have read stress taking the pollen from a mature blossom. My experience is that the best pollen comes from a young barely open blossom. Try this and I think you will have improved success with your pollination.

Q. Within a color group, are the darker shades of a color dominant to the lighter shades of the same color?

A. Logically, you would automatically think that the darker shades would express themselves stronger than the lighter shades. But logic will often lead you astray in genetics! Lighter shades of a color are dominant to the darker shades. This is why the deep bright intense colors are so rare in violets.

Q. Can new violet varieties be developed through tissue culture?

A. Recently there was an article in one of the greenhouse magazines which implied that this was the case. The author suggested that the unwanted variations experienced in tissue culture propagation might very well prove valuable in the developing of new varieties. Frankly, that seems rather remote to me. Tissue culture has been a tremendous boon to plant propagation, but it will be a bust if depended upon for hybridizing.

Q. Is hybridizing seasonal? Is there a best time to make crosses or a wrong time?

A. I think the answer to your question would depend upon the part of the country you live in. When I lived in Texas, I found that the fall and winter months were the best. In the hot summer months the

seed pods would not remain on the plants full term. In Ohio, I find that I can hybridize throughout the year with good success.

Q. In one of your earlier columns, you listed "frilled" edges on blossoms as being recessive. Isn't this a dominant?

A. Yes, it is definitely a dominant trait, and I was in error to list it as recessive.

Q. I am fascinated by 'Lilian Jarrett' or permanent type variegation in violet foliage. Why is it that we see so little of this type of variegation in violets?

A. The 'Lilian Jarrett' variegation has been and continues to be a mystery and frustration to the hybridizers that experiment with it. It is not like the Crown variegation of Ethel Champion or the 'Tommie Lou' variegation. With these types of variegation you simply set the seed on the variegated plant and all the seedlings come out variegated. At the present time it is not known exactly how 'Lilian Jarrett' variegation is transmitted. The confusing results that some of our hybridizers have reported makes one wonder if it is not a recessive trait that is sexually transmitted. Because of the difficulty of working with this variegation, very little progress has been made in developing improved cultivars.

Japanese Style? It's Great...

Mrs. Ruth Spiegel
822 N. Mayfair Ave.
Daly City, CA 94015

I was not able to grow a decent African violet trailer to save my life!

Snowy Trail was my best trailer plant, but I think it will grow for anyone. No matter what I did, the trailers would get "necky," not bloom and just look sick. I finally decided to stop growing them.

Then in January of this year the African Violet Magazine ran the article, "Growing Trailers the Japanese Way." I couldn't believe what I was seeing — plants so large! The article was clear and easy and so interesting that I took it to bed with me to read over and over again before I turned the light off.

The next week I decided to try it on my Sunset Trail, a plant hybridized by my dear friend, Ted Khoe. It wouldn't bloom for me and was about 4

inches wide.

Not being able to find the container pictured in the article, I bought an 8 inch plant saucer. Using my hot glue gun, without the glue, I poked holes in the bottom of the plastic saucer.

Next I placed about one inch of perlite in the saucer. (Perlite goes into all my pots to ensure oxygen to the roots.) All my plants are also bottom watered in trays to also ensure that roots are not waterlogged.

Following the directions in the article, I removed the excess leaves and staked the crowns to the soil. The soil used was straight Volkmann's soil (into all pots at re-potting time, a small sprinkle of systemic granules go in for plant protection).

Next I bottom watered and then between watering and feeding (20-20-20), the pot was placed up two inches from my Phillips Plain Spectrum, Gro-Lux tubes. My lights go for 10 hours a day.

No one was more surprised than I was to watch this plant take off. I was in shock and so were my violet friends.

In our society (San Francisco) I believe we have the largest number of judges. I have this feeling that inviting them over to see the plant as it was growing may have helped in ways that I'm unaware of. I must add that here our judges are not allowed to judge our shows.

On the day of our show, I was one nervous person. I was afraid that the judges would agree with the comments I was hearing from my friends. One said, "The plant is beautiful, but they'll never believe it's one plant." Another comment was, "It's not in a pot."

I really wanted the judges to award it any ribbon — at least to judge it. No one can imagine my shock when Gary Beck, our president, announced that Sunset Trail had not only won Best Western, but also 2nd best in the whole show and also best semiminiature trailer. I almost fell off the chair. I was in heaven.

My plant Magic Blue also won best semiminiature.

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QUESTION BOX



*Mrs. John Hayes
9 Cobblestone Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002*



Question: I have a heavy infestation of springtails. My recently purchased AVSA Handbook for Growers, Exhibitors and Judges says to ignore them. How can I when people pick up plants and see them all over the place?

Answer: Yes, it is true, you can ignore them, but like you, many people wish not to. Safer's Insecticidal Soap is a harmless compound and usually will do the trick to eradicate this pesty little creature.

Question: Powdery mildew seems to once again be my spring "malady." Can you give me some tips on this problem?

Answer: Yes, this is the fall season, but often those people that have mildew problems have this concern in both the spring and fall. There are many things that can be done to help, but consistency is probably the best hint that can be demonstrated. Plants should not be overcrowded, overwatered, or lack air circulation. If you know that your growing area is a bit on the high side of humidity, you must take steps to prevent it. A fan circulating air and plenty of space between plants is very important. Once mildew has announced its presence, you must take steps to prevent its return, as well as eradicating the outbreak. A spray of one of the fungicides available in your plant and garden stores should clear up the current problem. If the spores have "moved in," then you need to clean up your trays, walls, and anything else that you can wash in the machine or spray or scrub with Lysol products. I have a very damp cellar and the dehumidifiers are in use to remove moisture from the living areas of that level of our home. I have found that by placing small saucers of sulphur, purchased at the drugstore or garden/farm supply stores, has kept the area free of this problem. Others who do not wish to spray have used the pure sulphur in the following manner: touch a cotton ball to the pure sulphur and hold it *above*

(several inches, 6-12") the affected plants and gently blow the cotton ball. This will release a very fine mist of sulphur. I have never found this latter method to fail.

Question: I have heard that if I could keep the temperature of my plant room higher in the night, than day, that my plants would benefit. That seems to go against all that I have heard. Can you enlighten me?

Answer: I, too, have heard this suggestion, but how could most people control this? We know without any doubt that violets need a period of darkness and a change in temperature. I have read somewhere, cannot remember where, that if you could reverse your temperature controls to have your cooler period occur at the time your lights were on, and warmer at nights with lights off, that your plants will actually bloom better! I have known no one that has tried this, but do most definitely recall reading it in "violet" writings!

Question: I have been told to "bathe" my plants, but why?

Answer: Dust is not a person's favorite problem to deal with. It is most definitely a cause for concern for violet growers. I have to admit that I do NOT dust very often; but if I were to dust on a regular basis, I would suspect that even twice a week, at certain times of the year, would not be enough. Around my house, writing names in the dust happens FREQUENTLY!! Dust particles will clog delicate openings in your leaves and can impede the process of receiving the light it needs to thrive well. It is not necessary to bathe your plants too frequently, but should be done every now and then. Bathing can be done under the kitchen faucet, tilting the plant to ensure that water runs off and does not collect in the center. A freshly washed plant should not be put back in the windowsill if sunlight is present or

expected soon. By doing this you can burn the leaves and create damaged spots. They can be placed under artificial light, however. I suggest bathing every 4-8 weeks. You can prevent some dust buildup by using a very soft camel-hair artists brush. I wouldn't be without one. You can brush without damaging the leaves, and it is especially helpful if you have been repotting and get soil on the leaves, or are transporting plants to show and need to remove last minute dust or particles that have settled on the leaves. This brush makes a nice gift to new growers, raffle items, etc.

Question: My husband thinks that I should be propagating by seed and creating my own hybrids. Any tips to help me convince him otherwise? I really don't want to do this.

Answer: An unusual question? — not really. I have had some similar to this on several occasions. There are two or three very important considerations to take into account when thinking of such a project. First and foremost, it may be at least one year from the time you cross-pollinate until you see your first bloom. Space is an important consideration. You will need plenty of it to grow the seedlings you will keep and experiment with. You may NOT get anything new and different. It should be the goal of all who release new seedlings to introduce something new and different to the African violet grower. Time and space can make this a reality, but altogether too often, many plants are released that are not that much, if any, different from someone else's hybrid.

Question: I have always thought that fantasy-type blossoms were splotched with purple, but now I find other colors. Are they called by a different name?

Answer: While it might seem that they should be, they are all one and the same. The definition in our Handbook is as follows: "blossoms are splotched, streaked, or rayed with contrasting color or deeper shade of the same color. Blossoms can be of any kind or shape." I happen to very fond of the fantasy-type blooms, but this can be a love that occasionally goes sour from lack of performance. This is not the most stable bloom to reproduce. New plantlets may not always look like the parent plant. More and more of the newer fantasy hybrids are reproducing in a more stable fashion, but I still remember some of the oldies that were real stinkers to propagate. People used to say that if you had a plant that reproduced well, you should hold onto it!

Question: I tried to enter a plant in a self-watering container at a local show and was told it had to be in a round pot. Why would anyone make such a rule?

Answer: An inquiry brought me the information that this was not an African violet show. However, the schedule for entries did NOT state the size and shape of pot, which shows how we can be discriminated against outside of our own exhibitions. It is not always easy to enter specimen plants in other garden-type organization shows. We need to be more emphatic about doing such, as we can educate in the proper way of grooming and growing an African violet show specimen. Once entered, it is amazing how much comment is often derived about such an entry. Don't miss an opportunity to exhibit a fine African violet. Opportunities to educate are always there and we do ourselves and our organization proud to teach others in the fine art of growing show plants.

Question: We are thinking of having a corsage section in our design division next year. Any tips on where we could find help in teaching our members how to use African violet blooms in corsages?

Answer: Several years I had the privilege of judging a show in northern Massachusetts — the Merrimack AVC annual show. They had a class for corsages and I must admit I was at a loss to figure the hows and wheres and really how to best judge them. Do hope we did a fair job. There is a rather extensive section in Ruth Jo McCoy's book, *Floral Design Concepts*. It is advertised in your AVM. I find that the best source I know of right now. I also learned how to make a professional florists bow from her book.

Question: I was the recipient of an aeschynanthus this past fall and have had no success with getting it to bloom. What culture will help me to improve the performance of this gorgeous plant? I actually am quite happy with just the foliage, but the bloom I saw on this very plant in a spring show was spectacular!

Answer: The bloom is indeed spectacular, but like many growers, I love the aeschynanthus for its foliage. Many of them can be grown AND exhibited for foliage. You did see flowers in the spring, and that is the most likely time you will see blossoms. It is usually a spring-summer bloomer. It is a tip-bloomer — that is the blossoms form and open on the end of stalks. It needs a lot of light, although that

is a controversy even among knowledgeable gesneriad growers. They agree on the need for high humidity because drying out can adversely affect this plant. Drops in temperature will cause a lack of bloom for they do like it warm and preferably never below 65-70 degrees. They are most tolerant of long periods of high heat along with their need for high humidity. Some will bloom in the fall, but very few will bloom during the winter. Usual balanced fertilizers and use of fish emulsion type fertilizer is most successful. Many take cuttings to fill a basket more quickly as it is not a rapidly growing plant which can make it difficult to find. It is not commercially profitable for the non-greenhouse growing commercial.

Question: I have been told not to disbud miniatures and trailers. Why?

Answer: Many have disbudded both trailers and miniatures with good success. I can honestly say I have never disbudded trailers, but I have disbudded miniatures with good success. There is one very important warning that really should be capitalized. These little, wee plants need close watch, just like newborn babies. They WILL sucker with more ease than standard plants and you have to be on the alert to pull off these suckers to maintain the form of your show plant. I find the results much worth the extra work. You should be watching show plants carefully. Good show plants do not just happen. Try disbudding and see what kind of results you get.

Question: What is the benefit of these new "pan" type, shallow pots for large plants and trailers?

Answer: Having just now started using these, I cannot answer your question first hand. I have been told they are a godsend to speeding up the process of getting large show plants. We saw in the article on trailers from the Japanese growers that they use them for encouraging large trailer growth. I have heard that a well-known grower of large show plants found that her plants grew 4 inches in *one month* when placed in these large 5-6 inch shallow pots! Will let you know later this year. Have just planted 10 plants in these large, shallow, pan-type pots.

Conclusion: At the annual meeting of the Publications Committee in Dallas this spring, it was the general consensus of most present, that columnists, who no longer are members of the committee, shall confine their columns strictly to the business at hand. Certainly, most, but not all, popular magazine columnists do such. There is no doubt in my mind that

all the columnists have our AVM first in heart, and we do want to continually improve our publication. If this is an improvement, then I am all for it.

It has been fun to share thoughts of convention, family, building fund, seasonal violet needs, etc., but that will have to now be confined to personal letters. With my job as your treasurer there is little time for extras, so I will miss having this "personal" touch with all of you. Letters continue to come in large quantities and thus all cannot be answered. I remind you also that leaves and plants sent in the mail rarely reach me in condition to "diagnose." Please use your local university experiment stations as they are bound to be closer and plant material should remain in better condition with shorter travel time.

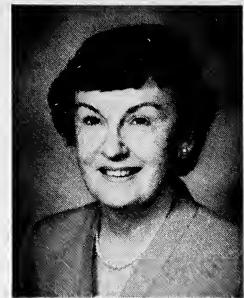
Thanks to all who have shared their thoughts, concerns and comments regarding families and our beloved African violet. Last, but not least, many thanks to the special Texas hospitality at the Dallas convention. It was a special time that I will not forget!



Frances Griffin is shown with her Best in Show plant, Tommie Lou, displayed at the Tidewater AVS show, "Around The World With Violets."

SHOWS AND JUDGES

*Emilie Savage
39 Mead Drive
Chillicothe, OH 45601*



The attendance at the Judges' Breakfast in Dallas was most gratifying. One of the recurring problems we encounter in our Shows and Judges Committee concerns judges who do not uphold the standards of AVSA with regard to qualifications of a good judge. Frances King, our newly appointed Senior Judges' Examiner, gave an excellent program entitled "The Ethics of Judging." I hope that each of you who attended will consider carefully the suggestions given by our speaker. If you could not be present, I hope you will read again the Qualifications of a Judge, page 86, in our Judges' Handbook. Let's all of us remember to give the other judges on the panel an opportunity to express an opinion on the merits of an exhibit.

The Shows and Judges Committee held their annual meeting at the Dallas Convention and examined the various suggestions that had been submitted to us for consideration. A few of them were tabled for further study. We are listing below some of the questions presented to us and the consensus of the committee with regard to them:

1. Should we have a registered micro-mini class? (This question was also discussed with our Registrar, Marilyn Goldstein and she is in accord with the opinion of the committee.)

We feel that we should continue to have our miniature and semiminiature classes. An additional micro-mini class would add to the confusion between small-growing minis and larger minis, since the size of pot in which miniatures are planted can control, to a degree, the size of the plant.

2. Should we have an AVSA mini collection?

This was discussed thoroughly with Bill Foster, Affiliate Chairman, in attendance. At one time, this was proposed to our AVSA Board of Directors and the motion was defeated. The reasons given were additional processing time by the Affiliate committee and administrative costs to AVSA. We encour-

age affiliates to sponsor their own miniature and/or semiminiature collections and many of them have them in their schedules.

3. Do we want to change our rule of one trailer plant in a pot, or allow multiple trailer plants in one pot?

We discussed the pros and cons of multiple plantings. We felt that this question came about as a result of the article, "The Japanese Technique for Growing African Violet Trailers" (AVM Jan/Feb., 1988). This was an excellent article on trailer culture. It was the committee's opinion that AVSA should continue to require one African violet trailer plant to a pot. The main point of the discussion was whether this method of growing trailers would conform to our requirement for one African violet trailer in a pot. We concluded that by the time trailers, grown in the conventional method, have been repotted several times, many of the crowns extending from the base of the original crown or stem are covered with soil and it is impossible to know from observation if there is more than one crown to a pot. Our judges usually give the exhibitor credit for only one plant in a situation of this kind. One of the most beautiful trailers I have ever seen was grown by Michelle Morrison of Sydney, Australia. It was "Happy Trails" with at least 400 blossoms and living proof that you don't have to put several plants in a pot to achieve a specimen trailer exhibit. Therefore, we feel that the Japanese method of growing trailers does not conflict with our AVSA rules with regard to trailers. However, if a crown should break off accidentally or while being pinned in the pot, it must not be put back in the pot. This would constitute more than one trailer plant in a pot.

4. In AVSA convention shows and AVSA standard shows, a personal interpretation of the design by the exhibitor on the white 3" x 5" card may be included, but is not required.

This addition to our rule in design under General Rules for Design Division Rule 4. (page 65) was submitted to us for consideration. It was the consensus of the committee that an exhibitor should not be permitted to explain a design for the benefit of the judges. The challenge lies in the exhibitor interpreting the schedule and the judges recognizing the interpretation.

5. Many questions were raised about Unusual Containers. These were answered in the Shows and Judges column in AVM, May/June, 1988.

6. Should the Shows and Judges Committee make recommendations for classification? Ex. In what class is a plant with fantasy blossom and geneva edge placed?

We would recommend for classification that geneva edged takes precedence over fantasy. However, we would prefer that Affiliates make decisions on classification.

The following are some of the questions that were submitted to the panel for answers at the judges' breakfast. Since our time element does not permit us to answer all of the questions we receive, we try to include them in this and future columns.

1. Does a blue ribbon won on an unusual container entry in horticulture fulfill the requirement for blue ribbon needed for renewal of judges certificate?

Ans. Yes.

2. Does each plant in the AVSA winning collection also receive a best-in-class ribbon or does the collection as a whole receive only one best in class?

Some affiliates give a best-in-class ribbon to the highest scoring collection; others only give the blue ribbons and, of course, the Gold Rosette. It is a good idea for the judges to mark the entry card of the highest scoring plant in each collection with a B/C (Best in Collection) so that the other judges may be guided in selecting the final awards (Best in Show, 2nd Best, etc.) since the Point Score Sheets must be handed to the Show Chairman as soon as the panel completes the judging of the collections.

3. Does panel picking special awards have the authority to change previously designated awards? (Note: this question referred to Design Section of Show). In AVSA convention shows (and I presume, in Affiliate shows), the top awards in Design Section are selected by the panels judging that section and not by the awards panel. No panel has the authority to change awards selected by another panel.

4. Panel notices interpretative flower arrangement touching all sides and extending over top of niche. Are judges, clerks & Show Chairman allowed to alter design in order for it to be judged?

After the show has been opened for judging, no design exhibit may be altered, either before or after judging. If the show has not been opened for judging, only the exhibitor may alter the design.

5. In some shows an exhibit which wins a special award may be considered for the Best or Second Best in Show, but if selected, cannot receive any special awards such as Grangers. Example: Granger's Wonderland.

If an exhibit wins Best of Show, then obviously it is the best "Granger's Wonderland," over any other exhibits of the same variety.

6. How can some one be a senior judge without entering plants in a show within four years?

A Senior Judge is required to present proof of three blue ribbons for the first and third applications and for every three-year renewal examination thereafter.

7. In judging trailers, what is the difference between form for trailers and symmetry in judging other plants? Must a trailer have pretty much equal growth on all sides to get full score?

Since the shape of a standard African violet plant is entirely different from the shape of a trailer, we have used the terms "Symmetry" and "Form" to differentiate between them. The leaves of a standard African violet plant should form a rosette with the foliage evenly distributed over the entire plant. A trailer should have at least three crowns growing from the central stem and may be an upright cluster form, sideways, or even hanging down from the pot in places. Some are classed as semi-trailers and do not have the full upright cluster form. You have to know the type of trailer you are judging in order to determine the proper growth pattern and judge accordingly.

NOTICE

Mrs. Elinor Skelton has requested that in the event of a postponement of a judging school, it is not necessary to register the school for the new date. It has already been approved. The judging school chairman merely notifies her of the new date. If a school has been cancelled, please notify her, also, so that the file may be closed.

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The African Violet Society of America, Inc.

Organized November 8, 1946 - Incorporated June 30, 1947

*"To stimulate a widespread interest in the propagation
and culture of African violets everywhere."*

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and the chairmen of the standing committees.

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Bermuda

s Foggo, Elaine S., P. O. Box DD 202, St. David's DDBX Canada

s Anderson, Mrs. T. A., 3 Burns Dr., Halifax, NS B3P 1V4

s Belanger, Claude, 3110 Place Byzance, Brossard, Quebec J4Z 2T9

Bell, Mrs. Jean, Codys RR 4, Queens County, NB E0E 1E0

Belliveau, Mrs. Eva, 10 Vista Dr., Moncton NB

Bonk, Mrs. Isabelle, Box 10, Summerberry, Sask S0G 4W0

*Brownlie, Doris M., 600 Silvercreek Blvd. #80, Mississauga, Ontario L5A 2B4

s Corbett, Sharon J., 8206 162 St., Edmonton, Alberta T5R 2L7

* Croteau, Denis, 3055 Ter Abenaquis, Longueil, Quebec J4M 2B6

Dawson, Mrs. George E., 36 High St., Hamilton, Ontario L8T 3Z3

s Decelles, Therese, 298 De Junonville, Boucherville J4B 1J9

s Decelles, Yvon, 298 De Junonville, Boucherville J4B 1J9

*Durand, Greta, #317-21 Lakeshore Rd., Pointe Claire, Quebec H9S 5N3

Elston, Eleanor, 4 Superior Ave., #18, Toronto, Ontario M8V 2M4

s Gomke, Linda R., 315 Parkvalley Dr., SE, Calgary, Alberta T2J 4V2

Goretsky, Winston J., 3308 Barr Rd. NW, Calgary, Alberta T2L 1M8

Goulding, Mrs. Mary S., 1096 Ridgewood Dr., Halifax, NS B3H 3Y4

Harriman, Mr. R. F., 3475 Trenholme Ave., Montreal, Quebec H4B 1X8

Henry, Mrs. Irene, 361 Hyman Dr., Dollard Des Ormeaux, Quebec H9B 1L5

s Hodgson, Larry, 1449 Av William, Sillery, Quebec G1S 4G5

Hughes, Mrs. Frank, 14 MacArthur Ave., Moncton, NB E1C 3L8

s Jarratt, Mrs. Margaret V., 11736-378 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta T6J 0K4

Jeffery, Mr. M. L., 456 Tower Dr., Oakville, Ontario L6L 4R3

Kosowan, Mrs. Murna A., 57 Davidson St., Barrie, Ontario M3N 3S1

s Laws, Charles E., 4331 Jneau, Pierrefonds, Quebec H9H 2C8

Lewis, Mrs. Hilda, 202 Spring Park Rd., Charlottetown, PEI C1A 3Y9

+*Lex, Sandra, 70 Enfield Ave., Toronto, Ontario M8W 1T9

* MacNeil, Janice, 13 Montclair Ave., Moncton, NB E1E 1T7

s McCabe, Mr. Robert, 769 Holt Cres., Ottawa, Ontario

McGovern, Shirley, 26 Maplegrove Ave., Sackville, NS B4C 2G9

s Mitchell, Mrs. L., 12911-82 St., Edmonton, Alberta T5E 2T3

Moffett, Anne, PO Box 198, Sussex, NB E0E 1P0

Newbold, Mrs. Mavis, 104 Culham St., Oakville, Ontario L6H 1G5

s Robitaille, Nancy V., 2260 Valquette, Chomedy Laval, Quebec H7M 3E8

s Salamanowicz, Mr. Walter, 324 Cantrell Dr., SW, Calgary, Alberta T2W 2C6

Salamanowicz, K. Evelyn, 324 Cantrell Dr., SW, Calgary, Alberta T2W 2C6

Staples, M. L. (Fred), 2199 Haygate Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1L7

*Tapping, Elizabeth A., 1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5

*Towler, Mrs. Helen, 619 36th St., SW, Calgary, Alberta T3C 1R1

s Tremblay, Christiane, 3330 De Brouage, Ste-Foy Quebec G1W 2S9

s Vandam, Mrs. H. A., 6015 Lockinvar Rd., SW, Calgary, Alberta T3E 5X4

s Vandam, Hans, 6015 Lockinvar Rd., SW, Calgary, Alberta T3E 5X4

s Vaughan, Margaret, 6416 Rundiehorn Dr., NE, Calgary, Alberta T1X 2B8

Williams, Mrs. Beverly, 3052 Grenville Dr., Mississauga, Ontario L5A 2P7

Wiseman, Lois, 45 Shea St., Sackville, NS B4C 2B2

Wolfe, Mrs. Inez, 3536 Autumn Leaf Cr., Mississauga, Ontario L5L 1K7

Wonnacott, S. L., 16 Abbotsford Place NE, Calgary, Alberta T2A 6V2

Peru

Duncan, Mrs. Daphne, Avenida 28 De Julio 1217, Lima 18

South Africa

+*Halford, Mrs. C. C., Union Farm, P. O. Pyramid 0120, Transvaal 0120

UNITED STATES

Alabama

+*Adams, Syble, 22 Forest Lake Dr., Elba 36323

+ Anderson, Mrs. Walter, 3168 Star Lake Dr., Birmingham 35226

Bamman, Mrs. Richard K., 100 Rosemont Cir., Dothan 36303

s Beason, Roger, 5240 7th Ave. S, Birmingham 35212

* Bell, Mrs. Palmer H., 473 Shades Crest Rd., Birmingham 35226

Benton, Myra, Rt. 6 Box 270, Andalusia 36420

* Boggan, Mrs. Clarence F., 4421 Clairmont Ave., Birmingham 35222

+*Breckenridge, Mrs. J. M., 1042 S. 19th Ave., Birmingham 35205

s Brown, Ophelia B., Rt. 18 Box 36, Dothan 36301

s Buck, Mrs. Louise, P.O. Box 116, Northport 35476

Buckner, Mrs. Barbara W., 3412 Ridge Dale Dr., Birmingham 35243

s Buie, Mrs. Ruth, Rt. 4 Box 115 Kinsey Rd., Dothan 36303

s Buie, Mrs. Sherry, 642 Seminole, Auburn 36830

Crane, Mrs. J. L., 2008 Bullard St., Montgomery 36106

Culberson, Mrs. V. B., 68 High Forest, Tuscaloosa 35406

Culver, Mrs. Virgil, 1128 Druid Hills Dr., Montgomery 36111

m Davis, Mrs. Ed R., 211 North Valley St., Montevallo 35117

m Eichelberger, Ruby T., 1409 S. 10th St., Birmingham 35205

Ferguson, Donna, 5831 Oakwild Dr., Montgomery 36117

+*Fuller, Elizabeth, 3412 S. Perry St., Montgomery 36105

s Gamer, Connie S., Rt. 4, Box 473, Killen 35645

Hall, Mrs. Coyle L., 1406 Briarcliff, Northport 35476

s Harrison, Gay, 3119 Mace Ave., Montgomery 36108

s Hart, Mrs. Bill, 528 Rosemont Dr., Dothan 36303

s Hayes, Elizabeth K., 3812 Buckingham Pl., Birmingham 35243

Henry, Mrs. Betty S., Rt. 8 Box 713, Tuscaloosa 35405

* Irwin, Mrs. E. M., P. O. Box 1105, Gardendale 35071

+*Lockhart, Mrs. Roy, P. O. Box 20051, Birmingham 35216

Loerch, Mrs. Wm. J., 811 Pine Forest Dr., Wetumpka 36092

Lumpkin, Mrs. G. E., 7545 Cedar Mtn. Rd., Pinson 35126

Moseley, Mary H., 710 Duval Dr., Montgomery 36109

Pate, Leroy, Rt. 4 Box 160-A, Gordo 35466

Payne, Mrs. E. B., 3855 Fieldcrest Dr., Montgomery 36111

* Phythyon, Peg, 660 Haggerty Rd., Wetumpka 36092

s Price, Mary F., 748 Dubuque Dr., Montgomery 36109

Robinson, Eleanor J., 500 Bellhurst Dr., Montgomery 36109

Shirley, Mrs. James H., Rt. 7 Box 25, Northport 35476

* Sisler, Mrs. Odand O., 2833 Ashley Ave., Montgomery 36109

s Strickland, Ben, Rt. 2 Box 5, Midland City 36350

s Strickland, Dorothy, Rt. 2 Box 5, Midland City 36350

* Strock, Mrs. Barbara, Rt. 1 Box 209, Elmore 36025

s Thomley, Christie D., 2602 Evans Dr., Dothan 36303

Till, Doris, 2927 Canterbury Ct., Montgomery 36111

Vincent, M. R., 212 Sylvan Dr., Enterprise 36330

* Von Hermann, Mrs. C. F., Jr., 2612 LongBow Dr., Birmingham 35214

s Wilson, Mrs. O. W., 4105 Lake Circle North, Mobile 36609

Alaska

Gibson, Mrs. Donald W., 8500 Rangeview Ave., Anchorage 99504

+*Hendricks, Beverly, 801 N. Bragaw, Anchorage 99508

Hurd, Vera L., 18552 Twenty Grand, Eagle River 99577

Martindale, Frances, 1514 Atkinson Dr., Anchorage 99504
 s Nelson, Dodie, 2412 E. 52nd #1, Anchorage 99507
 Rockwell, Mrs. Julius, Jr., 2944 Emory St., Anchorage 99504
 Talley, Venice I., 3204 Woodland Pk. Dr., Anchorage 99517
 Arizona

s Dixon, Mrs. Charles, 2950 N. Camino Del Oeste, Tucson 85705
 s Elliott, Mrs. Paule D., 7426 E. Calle Toluca, Tucson 85710
 Evans, Elizabeth A., 4430 E. Presidio Pl., Tucson 85712
 +*Kemmerling, Christine, 3601 W. Tierra Buena Lane, #240 B, Phoenix 85023
 s Kuchynka, Hattie L., 1010 Irene St., Box 429, Pearce 85625
 s Loomis, Ruth, 603 N. San Francisco, Flagstaff 86001
 s Luther, Kathleen A., 4736 E. Calle Del Medio, Phoenix 85018
 s Moak, Lynna K., 6641 E. 38th St., Tucson 85730
 Moak, Frederick E., 6641 E. 38th St., Tucson 85730
 Over, Mrs. Frank B., 4850 E. Cooper, Tucson 85711
 s Sacco, Susanne, 6302 E. Julia, Tucson 85710
 Sagert, Sylvia, 5503 N. Calle Del Santo Way, Phoenix 85018
 s Triggs, Margaret, 3423 N. Wayman, Flagstaff 86001
 s Wernke, Sonja S., 7231 N. Ulene Pl., Tucson 85741
 s Wilcoxson, Collene, 1950 W. Chablis Place, Tucson 85746
 Arkansas

Loewer, Mrs. D. H., 18 Galway, Wynne 72396
 s Villareal, Mary, 11 Pinnacle Pt., Little Rock 72205
 California

s Allsup, Patsy A., 24908 President Ave., Harbor City 90710
 s Alvarez, Susan, 108 A E Ventura St., Santa Paula 93060
 s Alvarez, Charles, 108 A E Ventura St., Santa Paula 93060
 Barker, Gloria, 6751 Townview Ct., San Diego 92120
 s Barker, Tamra, 35 Lewis Ave., Millbrae 94030
 +*Bartholomew, Mrs. E. T., 60 W. Fiesta Green, Port Hueneme 93041
 s Bastianelli, Mrs. Susan, 9840 Oakwilde, Stockton 95212
 * Beck, Gary R., 1155 Pine St. #4, San Francisco 94109
 s Benson, Mrs. James A., 1519 Mt. Diablo, San Mateo 94401
 s Botso, Margaret, 3581 Courtside Cr., Huntington Beach 92649
 Brede, Ralph, 127 Via Los Altos, Redondo Beach 90277
 Bruce, Ms. Marion N., 4030 Laguna Ave., Oakland 94602
 s Casad, Paul W., 4420 Santa Cruz, San Diego 92107
 Chase, Mrs. Celine K., 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City 94061
 Cohen, Mrs. Pat, 3741 Claremont, Irvine 92714
 s Comibe, Mrs. Cathy, 197 Archer Dr., Santa Cruz 95060
 s Crawford, T. E., 47 Robert Ct. E., Arcata 95521
 * Crouchett, George, 2240 Pine Ave., Long Beach 90806
 s DeAngelis, S. L., 2401 Lee Ave., Arcadia 91006
 Delong, Helen J., 7881-E Rancho Funita Dr., Santee 92071
 s Dorsey, Pat, 2339 Crescent Dr., San Diego 92103
 Elkin, Mrs. Barbara Jane, P. O. Box 726, 9749 Crestview Dr., Clearlake 95422
 s Fallaw, Neal, P. O. Box 8157, Pittsburgh 94565
 s Fallaw, June, P. O. Box 8157, Pittsburgh 94565
 Gealy, Carroll B., 1924 Elmsbury Rd., Westlake Village 91361
 s Geck, Honey, 8381 Daren Cir., Huntington Beach 92646
 Goode, Mrs. Mary A., 646 Head St., San Francisco 94132
 s Haffner, Sue, 3015 Timmy, Clovis 93612
 +*Hertel, Mrs. R. E., 9495 S. Wales Way, Elk Grove 95624
 s Hillman, Mary, 411 S. Mariposa St., Burbank 91506
 s Hockney, Isabelle, 5320 E. 28th St., Long Beach 90815
 s Hudson, Catherine L., 1715 Calle Zocalo, Thousand Oaks 91360
 Hughes, Mrs. Richard, 1586 W. Keats, Fresno 93711
 Inpijn, Hans, 5412 Via Carrizo, Laguna Hills 92653
 * Jantzen, Mrs. J. K., 2725 Katrina Way, Mountain View 94040
 s Jones, Irene G., 36776 Petra Dr. NBU 396, Palmdale 93550
 Kahrmann, Mrs. Henry C., 190 W. El Caminito, Campbell 95008
 Keating, Iris L., 149 Loretto Ct., Claremont 91711
 s Khoe, Ted, 715 Faxon, San Francisco 94112
 * King, Leonard C., 3327 28th St., San Diego 92104
 +*King, Mrs. Frances C., 3327 28th St., San Diego 92104
 Knowles, Mr. Henry K., 10312 Humbolt St., Los Alamitos 90720
 s Lawrence, Rebecca, 820 Ocean Crest Rd., Cardiff 92007
 s Lawson, Mrs. Carol, 1100 W. Huntington Dr., #21, Arcadia 91006
 s Lawson, Floyd L., 1100 W. Huntington Dr., #21, Arcadia 91006
 Lemm, Mrs. Virginia C., 27592 Niguel Village Dr., Laguna Niguel 92656
 s Leppert, Chris, 3529 Dove Ct., San Diego 92103
 * Lillquist, Madge, 8515 Ranchito Ave., Panorama City 91402
 s Lombard, Lynn, The Velvet Leaf, 1407 Calle Espana, San Dimas 91773
 s Luntao, Eden, 20520 Claremont Ave., Riverside 92507
 s Martin, Mrs. Olive L., 2444 W. Sonoma Ave., Stockton 95204
 +*McCoy, Mrs. Ruth Jo, 605 Pringle Ave. Sp. #44, Galt 95632
 Moffatt, Helen, 1325 Paseo Sereno, San Dimas 91773
 Muggleson, Barbara, 4741 Isabella Ave., Fair Oaks 95628
 s Myers, Cindy, 3858 Turquoise Lane, La Verne 91750
 s Myers, Catherine R., 282 Menlo Park Ave., Ventura 93004
 s Myrick, Virginia, 4255 Asher No. 47, San Diego 92110
 Nagy, Vivian T., 3516 Woodcliff Rd., Sherman Oaks 91403
 Naylor, Florence, P. O. Box 1411, Ventura 93002
 O'Neal, Beulah, 5991 Heritage Pl., Camarillo 93010
 * Poss, Mrs. Francis, 12 Kelton Ct., San Mateo 94403
 s Ragan, Vivien, 2026 Beach St., Concord 94519
 s Raley, Mrs. Virginia, 1641 Via Mirada Apt. B, Fullerton 92633
 s Re, Leonard, 9144 Helm Ave., Fountain Valley 92708
 Roberson, Mrs. Betty S., 3612 Laredo St., Carlsbad 92008
 +m Rosenfeld, Mrs. Lawrence, 2030 Junction Ave., El Cerrito 94530
 * Saddler, Mr. James, 3691 N. Diana, Fresno 93726
 * Saddler, Susan T., 3691 N. Diana, Fresno 93726
 s Schindler, Dorothy M., 648 Marsolan Ave., Solana Beach 92075
 Seaton, Robert P., 6882 Harmon Dr., Ventura 93003
 s Senoff, Jacqueline M., 17433 Lemac St., Northridge 91325
 Shaver, Marcia L., 1187 Buckingham Dr., Thousand Oaks 91360
 Shipley, Mrs. Jean, 3238 Preble, Ventura 93003
 s Sisson, Ralph, 9543 Cedros Ave., Panorama City 91402
 s Sisson, Carol, 9543 Cedros Ave., Panorama City 91402
 Smith, Bemeice, 2637 Granger Ave., National City 92050
 s Stokes, Jean, 7318 Sahara Ct., Sacramento 95828
 Striepens, Marna, 2225 Deepgrove Ave., Rowland Hts 91748
 Tatro, Mrs. Loretta, 123 San Marino Ave., Ventura 93003
 s Temple, Walter, 10155 Excelsior Ave., Hanford 93230
 s Temple, Barbara, 10155 Excelsior Ave., Hanford 93230
 Thomburg, Don, 266 Lenox Ave., Apt. 406, Oakland 94610
 s Triebwasser, Mrs. Belle, 3282 C. San Amadeo, Laguna Hills 92653
 +*Tusing, Mrs. Patricia A., 2500 Apple Ln., Oxnard 93030
 s Van Vliet, Carol, 13544 Morning Mist Way, Chino Hills 91710
 s Wallace, Barbara, 1075 Hayes Ave., San Diego 92103
 Wang, Mrs. Ann, 120 S. 4th St., Santa Paula 93060
 s Weaver, Doris R., 3940 N. Alvarado, Stockton 95204
 s Weaver, Susie, 2015 A Cleveland Ave., Santa Barbara 93103
 s Willoughby, Karen, 2512 16th Ave., Kingsburg 93631
 Winchell, Colleen R., 2412 Morningside St., San Diego 92139
 Wood, Enid, 666 Knoll Dr., San Carlos 94070
 Yost, Eva L., 5201 Third Parkway, Sacramento 95823
 Colorado

s Balliu, Catherine, 20765 E. 44th Ave., Denver 80249
 s Cady, Clarice E., P.O. Box 2207, Glenwood Springs 81602
 s Curtis, Linda, 7161 Pierce St., Arvada 80003
 Griffith, Deborah S., 1557 S. Sheridan Blvd., Lakewood 80226
 Hann, Mrs. Richard C., 3338 S. Glencoe St., Denver 80222
 s Hull, Robert, 930 E. 10th Ave., Broomfield 80020
 s Kiesling, Mrs. Paul Wm., 475 Madison, Denver 80206
 s Lalanne, Judie, 8076 S. Spruce Cr., Englewood 80112
 Laney, Jennie M., 3028 Cortez St., Fort Collins 80525
 s Levine, Nelly, 8797 Iris St., Arvada 80005
 s Margets, Mrs. H. W., 17 Vassar Court, Longmont 80501
 McNumey, Patricia, 8426 W. Woodard, Lakewood 80227
 s McLean, C. Anne, 26706 Trinchera Trail, Evergreen 80439
 s Miller, Mrs. Jean Marie, 6661 Upham Dr., Arvada 80003
 s Mitchell, Mrs. Shirley, 2433 Marquette St., Ft. Collins 80525
 * Montgomery, Isla, 534 E. 7th Ave., #206, Denver 80203
 Olander, Mrs. Martha, 333 E. Florida Ave. #21, Denver 80210
 Otto, Norah E., Magnolia Star Rt., Nederland 80466
 Ratte, Mrs. James C., Box 382, Black Hawk 80422

Roesch, Mrs. Dorothy J., 2575 S. Wadsworth Ct., Denver 80227
 * Schaetzl, Mrs. Margaret T., 2451 S. Jasmine Place, Denver 80222
 s Schiffrin, Carole, 7651 S. Ensenada Ct., Aurora 80016
 Sorensen, Mrs. Janice, 8357 E. Jamison Circle South, Englewood 80112
 s Thompson, Linda, 3351 So. Field #168, Lakewood 80227
 * Tyson, Miss Nell-Sue, 2030 E. Arther Ave., Denver 80210
 s Winn, JEva M., 7053 S.Tamarac St., Englewood 80112
 Connecticut
 m Adams, Mrs. Joseph F., Jr., 186 Waverly Rd., Shelton 06484
 Bower, Richard C., 239 Fort Path Rd., Madison 06443
 Butler, Ms. Ann W., 8 Buell St., North Haven 06473
 s Fagan, Cindy, 1 Anthony Rd., Bolton 06043
 Fargeot, Mrs. Julius, 235 Alps Rd., Branford 06405
 * Hayes, Nancy G., 9 Cobblestone Rd., Bloomfield 06002
 LeMere, Barbara E., 48 Center Rd. Circle, Orange 06477
 Nagy, Mr. Louis, 180 Bethke Rd., Killingworth 06417
 Rourke, Edna, 99 Old Stratford Rd., Shelton 06484
 s Sadler, Mrs. Janice K., 318 Greens Farm Rd., Westport 06880
 m Traskers, Mrs. Stanley J., 1514 Saybrook Rd., Haddam 06438
 Wheeler, Roger W., P.O. Box 263, Shelton 06484
 Delaware
 Abramson, Mrs. D. G., 4003 Greenmount Rd., Longwood, Wilmington 19810
 Behnke, Mrs. Wallace P., 1735 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark 19702
 Borleske, Barbara L., 29 Slashpine Cir., Hockessin 19707
 +*Callaghan, Mrs. John J., 2806 Rickdale Rd., Wilmington 19810
 Cattlett, Mrs. Carol, 2642 Majestic Dr., Wilmington 19810
 Celano, Theresa, 1703 Bancroft Pkwy., Wilmington 19806
 Celano, Mrs. Angeline, 4927 Lancaster Pike, Sedgely Farms, Wilmington 19807
 Gregg, Mrs. Betty, 2817 Grubb Rd., Wilmington 19810
 s Mathew, Mrs. Sareena T., 3119 Albemarle Rd., Wilmington 19808
 McMann, Mrs. Leland J., 2421 Lori Ln. S Tarleton, Wilmington 19810
 Pirone, Andrea, 10 Kenleigh C, Wilmington 19808
 Pyle, Mrs. Robert E., Jr., 2015 Foulk Rd., Wilmington 19810
 Stoops, Mrs. Alfred, 402 Goodley Rd., McDaniel Crest, Wilmington 19803
 s Turner, Dale, 822 Cobblecreek Ct., Newark 19702
 Waugh, Mrs. Roger O., 11 Tenby Dr. Perth, Wilmington 19803
 Florida
 s Boyer, James R., 8652 Savory Dr., Orlando 32817
 s Brown, Claudette, 3314 Ida Ln., Lakeland 33801
 Cassell, Betty, 128 Merle Cir., Ft. Walton Beach 32548
 Cherry, Mrs. Neil G., Jr., 219 Brookview Dr., N, Jacksonville 32225
 s Chrisman, Mrs. Frances, 724 Alfred Dr., Orlando 32810
 Clifton, Mr. Wayne, 428 Aural Ln., Apopka 32712
 s Cohen, Lottie M., 1407 Berwyn Rd., Orlando 32806
 s Courson, Barbara, 527 Willow Run Knoll, Lakeland 33803
 s Davis, Marta G., 3600 E. Grant St., Orlando 32812
 s Dennis, Deborah, 1825 E. Park Lake St., Orlando 32803
 Droege, Alyce D., 1318 Kewanee Trail, Maitland 32751
 Ducharme, Mrs. Janet, 1618 High Point Ct. SW, Winter Haven 33880
 Dulaney, Mrs. Jane, 117 Gateway Estates, Florida City 33034
 Durand, Virginia M., 5922 Gamble Dr., Orlando 32808
 s Dyhr, Mrs. Russell, 3710 Eloise St., Orlando 32806
 * Eichenberger, Mrs. William, 1544 Lime St., Clearwater 34616
 s Farnsworth, Mr. V. L., 496 S. Garden Dr., Lakeland 33813
 +m Flad, Mrs. Lester, 1173 Quail Ave., Miami Springs 33166
 Fleming, Cynthia, 2837 Douglas Rd., Panama City 32405
 s Fuchs, Mrs. Kenneth A., 1739 8th Ave. SW, Largo 33540
 Gill, Dorothea, 2037 Sandra Dr., Clearwater 34624
 Goldstein, Mrs. Jack, 1001 Diplomat Pkwy., Hollywood 33019
 +*Green, Mr. Bob L., 997 Botany Ln., Rockledge 32955
 Greene, Lise S., 1211 SW 129 Way, Davie 33325
 Hann, Mrs. Dorothy, 2525 Wynnewood Dr., Clearwater 34623
 Harden, Mary Lou, 910 W. Hillsboro, Seffner 33584
 s Harden, Philip, 910 W. Hillsboro, Seffner 33584
 Hartman, Lawanda, 10274 Jolynn Rd., Jacksonville 32225
 s Hartman, Charles, 10274 Jolynn Rd., Jacksonville 32225
 Hayes, Judson H., 2824 Oak Cove Ln., Jacksonville 32211
 s Hill, Sharon M., 5312 18th Ave. S, Gulfport 33707
 Hilton, Rita G., 2295 W. Helen Cir., Bartow 33830
 Howell, Christine, 637 Carey Pl., Lakeland 33803
 Hukle, Cheryl, Rt. 9, Box 5 Wilkins Rd., Tampa 33610
 s Illo, Phillip, 8580 SW 124th St., Miami 33156
 s Johnson, Mary L., 803 Lake Palm Dr., Largo 33541
 +*Johnson, Mrs. H. Steven, 741 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando 32804
 Jones, Miriam, 7321 SW 16 St., Miami 33155
 Kellum, Jennifer S., 2618 Flamingo Ln., Ft. Lauderdale 33312
 s Kunter, Joan, 2513 Whale Hbr Ln., Ft. Lauderdale 33312
 Landry, Patricia A., 6535 Colonade Cr., Pensacola 32506
 s Lansford, Dee, 288 Aurora Dr., Orange Park 32073
 s Leddy, Mrs. Edmund, 2471 SW 82 Ave., Davie 33324
 Leto, Mrs. Sam, 6308 Otis Ave., Tampa 33604
 s Malone, Dorothy, 8051 Tara Ln., Jacksonville 32216
 s Markiewicz, Kathleen, 6130 3rd Ave. North, St. Petersburg 33710
 s Marshall, Linda M., 5153 NW 30th Ct., Margate 33063
 McVicker, Mrs. Pearl, 1517 Blue Lake Dr., Lakeland 33801
 Merritt, Mrs. Fayette, 4200 Croydon Rd., Pensacola 32504
 Miderski, Mrs. Dorothy, 123 Audubon Dr., Leesburg 32748
 Miller, Mrs. Hazel V., 1307 15th St. SW, Winter Haven 33880
 s Minor, Sheryl L., 7991-64 St. N., Pinellas Park 34665
 Mugovero, Diane, 9950 SW 213 St., Miami 33189
 Partain, Judy, No. 9 Hummingbird, Winter Haven 33884
 s Peterson, Helen, Rt. 4 Box 694, Panama City 32405
 Ramsey, Mrs. Porter L., Jr., 1241 Grove Park Blvd., Jacksonville 32216
 +m Richardson, Mrs. J. A. W., 2315 Lakeshore Dr., Tavares 32778
 Robinson, Mrs. M. W., 3470 NW 21st Ave., Ft. Lauderdale 33309
 s Robinson, Barbara A., 761 Brookside Rd., Maitland 32751
 Sanger, R. H., 3700 Ponce De Leon Blvd., Sebring 33872
 Schreck, Mrs. E. E., 2055 S. Floral Ave. #328, Bartow 33830
 s Scobey, Elains S., 40 SE 13th St., Pompano Beach 33060
 s Scott, Mrs. H. B., 2719 SE 18th Ct., Cape Coral 33904
 Shurette, Mrs. Marjorie, 2721 SW 117 Ave., Ft. Lauderdale 33330
 Sloan, Hilda D., 1138 Lake Miriam Dr., Lakeland 33803
 s Spangler, Walter E., 6285 31st Ave. N, St. Petersburg 33710
 s Spangler, Glenda D., 6285 31st Ave. N, St. Petersburg 33710
 Sprayberry, Lois R., 840 Linton Ave., Orlando 32809
 s Starr, Estelle, 2602 Graupera St., Pensacola 32507
 Starr, George B., 2602 Graupera St., Pensacola 32507
 Stuck, Mrs. Norman, 8152 Arble Dr., Jacksonville 32211
 m Suder, Mrs. Alvina H., 2 Pindo Palm E #C, Largo 33540
 s Sullivan, Mary Etta, 2358 Cincinnati Ave., Panama City 32405
 Thompson, Linda, 2730 Ingot Pl., Sarasota 33580
 Thompson, Catherine, 3941-H SW 17th Lane, Gainesville 32605
 s Turner, Mr. Milton, 2014 Pretty Pond Rd., Zephyrhills 34248
 Wasson, Mrs. Lucile J., 1101 Frankford Ave., Panama City 32401
 * Whitaker, DoDe, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island 32953
 s Wright, Sharron A., P. O. Box 2063, Panama City 32402
 Georgia
 Bamette, W. W., 1794 Angelique Dr., Decatur 30033
 Bentley, Mrs. W. P., 20 Mulberry Lane, Augusta 30909
 Brewer, Mrs. Horace B., 1598 Huntington Dr. NW, Marietta 30066
 Christian, Mrs. Hinton D., 110 Milledge Terr. Condo 1, Athens 30606
 Cox, Mrs. Marvin R., Jr., Rt. 2 Box 159, Oakwood 30566
 Cumpton, Pierce, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31088
 Cumpton, Joan, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31088
 Hughes, Joyce C., 611 Wimbish Rd., Macon 31210
 s Hyatt, Mary, P.O. Box 2048, Blue Ridge 30513
 Jordan, Mrs. Stuard, Rt. 3 Box 110, Royston 30662
 * Lewis, Betty, 935 Ridgedale Dr., Lawrenceville 30245
 Mackey, Hugh N., 299 Stockwood Dr., Woodstock 30188
 Miles, Mrs. Sharon, 1954 Liberty Church Rd., Hephzibah 30815
 s Moon, Jan, 2216 Kimberly Dr., Augusta 30904
 Norris, Mrs. Theresa S., 1362 Crooked Tree Court, Lilburn 30247
 Richardson, Jack L., 2721 N. Druid Hills, Atlanta 30329
 Ross, Elise M., 151 Firewood Ct., Athens 30605
 Selman, Angelika, 3580 Milledgeville Rd., Augusta 30909
 Stone, Mary H., 3462 Milledgeville Rd., Augusta 30909

Thacker, Mrs. Sally P., 515 Scotts Way, Augusta 30909
 Walker, Laura L., 562 Rue Montaigne, Stone Mountain 30083
 s Wheatley, Mildred M., 2207 Breckenbridge Ave., Augusta 30904
 Wilson, Mrs. Frank L., 125 Briarcliff Rd., Athens 30606

Illinois

Aske, Mrs. M., 2702 N. Monticello, Chicago 60647
 s Benker, Rita, 2227 24 1/2 St., Rock Island 61201
 s Bruns, Joseph J., 1220 Stratford Ln., Hanover Park 60103
 s Compton, Martha, 3003 E. Oakland Ave., Bloomington 61701
 Downie, Ms. Helen B., 2725 Bel Air Dr., Arlington Hts 60004
 Dublinski, Mrs. Susan, 760 Portree Ln., Lake Zurich 60047
 Gass, Colleen, R. R. Box 285, O'Fallon 62269
 s Goodsell, Mrs. Robert, 429 Cherry Ln., Glenview 60025
 Guenther, Shirley M., 7812 Linder Ave., Morton Grove 60053
 Haak, Mrs. Ruth, 911 S. Vine Ave., Park Ridge 60068
 Hogan, Florise M., 1220 31st St., Rockford 61108
 m Hood, Mrs. Frank, Jr., Box 80 Rt. 1, Seaton 61476
 Johnson, Mrs. Edward, 4901 N. Ozanam Ave., Norridge 60656
 Klein, Darlene, RR 1, Metamora 61548
 s Koch, Mr. Charles, 14727 Kilpatrick Ave., Midlothian 60445
 * Landgren, Mrs. George, 810 Ingleside Pl., Evanston 60201
 s Mann, Mrs. Kenneth, 507 E. Grove St., Bloomington 61701
 m McIntosh, Mrs. George J., 611 N. Main St., Normal 61761
 s Okerstrom, Karen, 1344 Poplar Ct., Homewood 60430
 Palm, Mrs. Elinor A., 4640 W. 182nd Pl., Country Club Hills 60477
 Pugsley, Joan A., 28693 Ravine Dr., Barrington 60010
 Quigg, Mrs. Richard W., 15316 Knoxville Rd., Milan 61264
 s Recoy, Terry L., 1612 Evans Ave., Rockford 61111
 s Reynolds, Paul D., 710 W. Walnut, Bloomington 61701
 Romanow, Mrs. Connie, 15408 Linden Dr., Oak Forest 60452
 Schroeder, Mrs. Raymond E., 217 Andrew Ave., Dwight 60420
 +m Schroeder, Mrs. Wayne, 1739 N. 74th Ct., Elmwood Park 60635
 s Szewczyk, Frank G., 17223 Fisk, E. Hazelcrest 60429
 * Teater, Mrs. Herman, 1211 E. Elmhurst, Peoria 61603
 m Tiedeman, Mrs. H. R., 1008 Bakewell, Normal 61761
 Watkins, Mrs. Charles, 709 Virginia Ave., Normal 61761
 Willey, Jean, 14836 La Salle, Dolton 60419

Iowa

m Ilstrup, Mrs. George, 1252 42nd St., Des Moines 50311
 * Jones, Mrs. Maurice E., 1206 7th St., Durand 52747
 * Lorimor, Barbara, 265 Kingsridge Dr., Council Bluffs 51501
 s Oelmann, Deb, P. O. Box 434, 303 Park Ave., Dows 50071
 Schafer, Mrs. R. N., 3830 Woodland Ct., Davenport 52807
 s Watts, Mrs. Wayne, 620 Ray St., Colo 50056

Kansas

Gall, Mrs. John L., 3200 W. 82nd Terr., Leawood 66206
 Jones, Mrs. Gladys, Rt. 1 Box 280, Rose Hill 67133
 s Karr, Laurie, 2505 Cimarron Dr., Lawrence 66046
 Russell, Raymond L., 807 W. 27th Terr., Lawrence 66044
 Weir, Mrs. Robert, 490 Terrace Trail East, Lake Quivira 66106
 s Wieditz, Mrs. Faye, 1133 N. Pershing, Wichita 67208

Louisiana

Ar cement, Mrs. Lilly B., Rt. 2 Box 92, Napoleonville 70390
 Armstrong, Genelle, 1313 Gardenia Dr., Metairie 70005
 Armstrong, Al, 1313 Gardenia Dr., Metairie 70005
 Ball, Mrs. Carl S., P. O. Box 122, Ball 71405
 * Benge, Dorothy L., 5900 Wheeler, Metairie 70003
 Boudreaux, Melba A., 843 Canal Rd., Napoleonville 70390
 +*Brenner, Miss Penelope Ann, 3736 Lang St., New Orleans 70114
 * Brown, Mr. Jerome E., P. O. Box 2332, Baton Rouge 70821
 * Brown, Mrs. Jerome E., P. O. Box 2332, Baton Rouge 70821
 s Cole, Sophie A., 2515 Honeysuckle, Baton Rouge 70808
 D'Antoni, Anite, 4436 W. Brooktown, Baton Rouge 70805
 s David, Nancy, 110 St. Jude, New Roads 70760
 Dazet, Mrs. Leonard, Box 625, Empire 70050
 Domiano, Jeannette, 2173 Leslie St., Gretna 70056
 Duay, Mrs. Sylvia, 655 Marie Antoinette 11-F, Lafayette 70506
 Dyson, Lynne, 409 Snead St., Berwick 70342
 Dyson, Mrs. James, 409 Snead St., Berwick 70342
 Guarisco, Janis S., P. O. Box 1128, Morgan City 70381

Maryland

s Armstrong, Linda Rochelle, 515 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212
 * Burns, Mrs. Howard, 8624 Delege Rd., Baltimore 21237
 Haag, Mrs. Don J., 524 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212
 Holtman, Mrs. Emily, 1726 Hall Ave., Baltimore 21227
 * Lages, Mrs. Betty Lou, 3609 Fort Hill Dr., Ellicott City 21043
 s Richardson, M. Diane, 9207 Ravenwood Rd., Baltimore 21237
 m Sauter, Ms. Beatrice, 2123 Northland Rd., Baltimore 21207
 Toolan, Sharon, 3903 Nemo Rd., Randallstown 21133
 Wood, Beryl J., Box 135 A76, RD 3, Cambridge 21613

Massachusetts

Balonis, Marcia, Boston Rd., P. O. Box 747, Groton 01450
 Blustein, Mr. Richard, 38 Fuller Pond Rd., Middleton 01949
 Cook, Barbara, 28 Minot St., Falmouth 02540
 Cook, John, 28 Minot St., Falmouth 02540
 +*Courage, Alice M., 33 Essex St., Wakefield 01880
 +*Crisafulli, Mrs. Jessie, Amherst Rd., 290 Federal St., Belchertown 01007
 Jobert, Leola M., 755 Plymouth St., Whitman 02382
 s Junkin, Ruth, 113 Offutt Dr., Bedford 01730
 m Kanella, Mrs. Stephen C., 16 Mylod St., Walpole 02081
 Lass, David Alan, 19 Phillips Rd., Nahant 01908
 m MacLean, Mrs. J. Addison, 175 Mill St., Abington 02351
 s Ormerod, Eleanor, 445 Sharps Lot Rd., Swansea 02777
 Ouellette, Kathy, 207 Abbott St., Lawrence 01843
 St. Aubin, Mrs. Edward, 58 Exeter St., Lawrence 01843
 Warren, Mrs. Bertrand, 1534 Robeson St., Fall River 02720
 Wilson, Dolores E., 5 Shore Dr., Peabody 01960

Michigan

m Leslie, Mrs. Andrew, 7662 Woodview Dr., Apt. 1, Westland 48185

Minnesota

Bann, Mrs. Ruth, 680 Marigold Ter., Fridley 55432
 Fleisch, Mrs. Kenneth, 4811 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis 55417
 Harrington, Delores, 1620 Garden Ave. NE, Fridley 55432
 Hultin, Mrs. Leroy E., 6150 Starlite Blvd. NE, Fridley 55432
 Johnson, Mrs. Richard M., 9316 170th Ave., Forest Lake 55025
 Johnson, Sharon E., 6657 E. Shadow Lk. Dr., Lino Lakes 55014
 Johnson, Retha N., 5105 W. 62nd St., Edina 55436
 Nelson, Mrs. Lorraine, 2430 Douglas Dr. N., Golden Valley 55422
 Paron, Mrs. Marino, Rt. 1 Box 270, North Branch 55056
 Tobin, Mrs. W. F., 2262 Brewster St., St. Paul 55108
 Trapp, Mrs. Monroe, 1224 W. Hwy 36, St. Paul 55113
 Zondlo, Mrs. C., 3326 Lincoln St. NE, Minneapolis 55418

Mississippi

Miller, Mrs. Linda, 1825 Brookhaven Dr., Southaven 38671

Oden, Mrs. G. B., 411 San Antonio, Hattiesburg 39401
Sledge, Dr. Charles E., 23 Terrapin Hill Rd. S., Brandon 39042
Wicht, Miss Jane, 203 Broad St., Hattiesburg 39401

Missouri

*Aubuchon, Joan, 7330 Leona, St. Louis 63116
Baumhauer, Mrs. Drew, 24 Fox Meadows, Sunset Hills 63127
Bellinger, Helen, 1240 S. Estate, Springfield 65804
Blacketer, Mrs. Perry W., 10410 Monroe, Kansas City 64137
Britton, Col. James, 3906 SW Harbor Dr., Lee's Summit 64063
Britton, Judith, 3906 SW Harbor Dr., Lee's Summit 64063
Brooks, Mrs. Richard F., 14 Glenhaven Dr., St. Louis 63122
*Buttram, Mr. J. David, P. O. Box 193, Independence 64051
Campbell, Mrs. Ethel M., 5543 E. Bennett, Springfield 65804
Carson, Doris F., 1702 Joplin, Joplin 64804
Cox, Ruby E., 1206 Wyvonne, Bethany 64424
Donnell, Ramona, 306 Ballard, Carl Junction 64834
Eaklor, Mrs. Lavera I., 245 Brackleigh Ln., Florissant 63031
French, Mrs. Paula, 107 Cornelia, Glendale 63122
*Gill, Mrs. Bernard F., 1015 Greenway Terr., Kansas City 64113
s Golubski, Linda, 1416 A. St., Blue Springs 64015
Hamilton, Mrs. Virginia, 7 Carole Ln., Frontenac 63131
Hamil, Mrs. Francis J., King's Lane Farm, #27 Brook Ln., St. Charles 63303
Hapner, Mrs. Susan, 12789 Highstone Dr., St. Louis 63146
Hart, Patricia M., 3350 Blue Ridge Blvd., Independence 64052
*Hill, Mrs. Sue I., 12201 E. 45th Terr., Independence 64055
Holt, Mrs. H. L., 1128 Linden, St. Louis 63117
Jacobs, Mrs. Earl John, 1990 Winter Haven Dr., Imperial 63052
Janus, Mrs. William, 130 N. Holmes, St. Louis 63122
Livingston, Mrs. C. M., Rt. 2, Pleasant Hill 64080
Loveland, Gene M., RR #1 Box 414L, Grain Valley 64029
Meister, Mrs. Carl, 4459 Gemini, St. Louis 63128
Miller, Ardath L., 529 Ranch Dr., Manchester 63011
Moe, Jeanie, 2419 Mayer Dr., St. Charles 63301
*Proctor, Mrs. Harold A., 6124 Ralston, Raytown 64133
Russom, Fran, 7022 Ethel, St. Louis 63117
+Smith, Mr. Eddie Stretch, 4304 S. Compton Ave., St. Louis 63111
*Ward, Mrs. Charles E., 11805 E. 74th Terrace, Kansas City 64133
Wells, Esther Edwards, 948 Fair Oaks Ct., Liberty 64068
Wickell, Janet, 400 N. Madison, Raymore 64083
*Willets, Mrs. Floretta A., 6115-A Pershing Ave., St. Louis 63112
*Willets, Nancy D., 6115-A Pershing Ave., St. Louis 63112
*Wilson, Mrs. Roma, 4037 Cleveland Ave., St. Louis 63110
Youngblood, Bruce, 4010 Hedges, Kansas City 64133

Montana

Minker, Mrs. Alice, 324 3rd Ave. W, Roundup 59072
Nichols, Dr. Ed, 324 3rd Ave. W, Roundup 59072
Nichols, Kay, 324 3rd Ave. W, Roundup 59072

Nebraska

Stork, Joyce, 320 W. Eagle, Arlington 68002
s Stork, Kent, 320 W. Eagle, Arlington 68002
s Teselle, Joanne, 808 4th St., P. O. Box 746, Milford 68405
New Hampshire
*Baschnagel, Mrs. Wm., Trescott Rd., RR 1 Box 252, Etna 03750
New Jersey
*Buschke, Mrs. Edward W., 11 Drumlin Dr., Morris Plains 07950
s Fischer, Jill G., 59 River Bend Rd., Berkley Hts 07922
Howells, Barbara E., 18 Packanack Lake Rd., Wayne 07470
*Imhof, Nancy E., 31 Adele Ct., Red Bank 07701
Jasaitis, Dale K., 23 Monterey Circle, Lakewood 08701
Lynn, Mrs. Charlotte, 620 Remsen Ave., N. Brunswick 08902
McAfoos, Jane F., 545 Heather Lane, Brick Twp 08724
*Riemer, Mrs. Donald N., 392 Penn. Harb. Rd., R.D. 1, Pennington 08534
s Rogan, Antoinette, 15 Packanack Lake Rd., Wayne 07470
Semen, Flora, 74 Kino Blvd., Trenton 08619
Sendic, Mrs. Rita, 2524 Berdan Ave., Fair Lawn 07410
Senna, Frank, 13 Harvard Way, Oakland 07436
Vandermeer, Hilda, 36 Fogarty Dr., Trenton 08619
Winfield, Cecelia, 972A Village Dr., E, N. Brunswick 08902

New Mexico

Iskra, Mrs. Charles, 4700 Sherwood NE, Albuquerque 87109
Longmire, Mrs. Delmar, 8600 Summer Ave. NE, Albuquerque 87112
s Morrison, Joan Lapham, P. O. Box 646, Jemez Springs 87025
s Nelson, Eloda, 6113 Alta Monte NE, Albuquerque 87110
Schmierer, Margaret, 5010 Crownpoint Ct. NW, Albuquerque 87120
Staat, Mrs. Charles H., 1701 Kentucky St. NE, Albuquerque 87110
Tallant, Mrs. James N., 4305 Cobblestone NE, Albuquerque 87109
Tanner, Mabel G., 1101 Madison St. SE, Albuquerque 87108
Tracy, Betty, 1600 Figueroa St. NE, Albuquerque 87112
Weinshenker, Mrs. B. A., 1017 Casa Grande Pl. NE, Albuquerque 87112
Wiley, Mrs. Clella, 1801 Luth Dr. NE, Albuquerque 87112

Nevada

s Dineen, Jane E., P.O. Box 1081, Carson City 89702
s Mark, Carol J., 1823 Fairlie Court, Sparks 89431
s Schmidt, Betty L., 1670-A Wedekind Rd., Reno 89512
s Shaw, June, 630 Robinhood Dr., Apt. 19, Reno 89509
s Young, Mrs. Cheryl, 600 Akard Cir., Reno 89503

New York

+Bogin, Mrs. Sidney, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach 11561
Boos, Donna M., 4 Middlebury Rd., Hauppauge 11787
+Bradford, Edward, 85-25 86th St., Woodhaven 11421
Buckley, Mrs. Paul, 1299 Chelsea Rd., Wantagh 11793
m Champion, Mrs. Duane L., 8848 Van Hoesen Rd., Clay 13041
Collins, Mrs. Cynthia T., 10 E. 5th St., Apt. 58, New York 10028
s Coyle, Raymond, 86-24 77 St., Woodhaven 11421
Curtin, Mary, 130 Morrison Ave., Staten Island 10310
Darrah, Mrs. Grace P., 322 Sunrise Dr., Syracuse 13205
Davis, Mrs. Vicki, 384 Linwood Ave., N. Tonawanda 14120
Denison, Eileen, 379 Ridge Road, Glens Falls 12801
+Dooley, Mr. Raymond, Jr., 214 Thompson St., New York 10012
MEgenites, Leila M., 28-27 214th Place, Bayside 11360
Federico, Mrs. Vincent, 11 Violet Ave., Mineola 11501
s Gershon, Marianne, 231-11 57th Ave., Bayside 11364
Ghossn, Mrs. Joseph, 87-12 Jamaica Ave., Woodhaven 11421
Gifford, Helen, Box 137, Medusa 12120
Godfrey, Mrs. Cornelius R., 1902 Edward Ln., Merrick 11566
s Grigalunas, Mark, 529 W. 42nd, Apt. 2K, New York 10036
Gugliada, Mrs. Frank, 16 Meeker St., Staten Island 10306
Gundlach, Mrs. Erna, 292 Edinboro Rd., Staten Island 10306
Heidt, Susan, 40 Harbor View Dr., Northport 11768
Hiltz, Jane, 1615 Anchor Ln., Southold 11971
Holland, Mrs. Laura F., 430 Coney Island Ave., Brooklyn 11218
*Kasperski, Mrs. Paul F., 5 Hewlett Point Ave., E. Rockaway 11518
*Kasperski, Mr. Paul F., 5 Hewlett Point Ave., E. Rockaway 11518
Klein, Carolyn, 102-39 85 Road, Richmond Hill 11418
Knauf, Ann D., 34 Parkwood St. E, Albany 12203
* Koester, Mrs. Marceline, 161-15 29th Ave., Flushing 11358
Kokoszczynski, Susan, 64-31 60 Rd., Maspeth 11378
s Kroll, Paul F., Harmony Hill Farm, 4325 Two Rod Rd., E. Aurora 14052
*Lee, Mrs. Anne, 16 Tinder Lane, Levittown 11756
s Macaluso, Rosemary, 40-16 247 St., Little Neck 11363
*Markunas, Diane, 71 Lockwood Ave., S. Farmingdale 11735
Mason, Mrs. Esther E., 79 Grove Ave., Albany 12208
s Mednick, Samuel, 7 Donald St., Pt. Jefferson Station 11776
Meek, Mrs. Ruth W., 214 Goodrich Ave., Syracuse 13210
s Merkelson, Mrs. Lloyd E., 216-11 31st Rd., Bayside 11360
O'Sullivan, Dolores E., 246 28 Deepdale Ave., Douglaston 11362
*Oswald, Mrs. Frederick, 5 Euston Rd., Garden City 11530
s O'Leary, Mary Ellen, 400 Lockport St., Youngstown 14174
Raskopf, Betty, 3355 Bunker Ave., Wantagh 11793
Red Elk, Priscilla C., 205 Point Pleasant Rd., Rochester 14622
Robinson, Ralph, 96 Harriet St., Tonawanda 14150
Rodenhagen, Margaret, 28 Carolanne Dr., Delmar 12054
+Rotando, Mrs. Kathryn, 131 Taft Ave., Long Beach 11561
+Ruttmayer, Mrs. Kenneth, 2 Hampton St., Hauppauge 11787
s Smith, Olive M., 770 James St. #211, Syracuse 13203
Smith, Mr. James H., 1126 Ferry Ave., Niagara Falls 14301
*Strnad, Mrs. Helen, Box 173, Northport 11768
Svitak, Joseph, 85 51 169th St., Jamaica 11432

Turnbull, Robert B., 9 Blackwell St., Cornwall-On-Hudson 12520
Turnbull, Margaret B., 9 Blackwell St., Cornwall-On-Hudson 12520
s Vogt, Dorothy, 180 Waco St., Lindenhurst 11757
Volini, Mrs. Michael, 154-66 25th Dr., Flushing 11354
* Weber, Mrs. Jane, 50 Belknap Dr., Northport 11768
Wildman, James A., Jr., 4560 Grace Place, Jamesville 13078
Worth, Ms. Gwenn, 115 E. 9th St., New York 10003

North Carolina

s Bunn, Kermit, Rt. 3 Box 613 B, Snow Hill 28580
s Bunn, Lorena, Rt. 3 Box 613 B, Snow Hill 28580
m Churchill, Mrs. Warren, Carolina Meadows, Whippoorwill Ln., Apt. 3-304, Chapel Hill 27514
s Deans, Frances L., 109 Longview Dr., Goldsboro 27530
s Garland, Mrs. Betty, 4821 Amity Pl., Charlotte 28212
Harp, Eva, 7511 Middlebury Pl., Charlotte 28212
s Level, Anna, 3141 Barbour Mill Rd., Clayton 27520
s Pettypool, Ingrid, 11704 Laurel Grove Lane, Pineville 28134

Ohio

s Barnhart, Mrs. Richard, 21 Carlisle Ave., Springfield 45504
Bartley, Betty L., 3920 Monterey Ave., Springfield 45504
Black, Mrs. George, 8001 Cleveland N, N. Canton 44720
Borton, Mrs. Lewis, 4864 U.S. 68 North, Yellow Springs 45387
s Bradney, Mrs. Norman, 1104 Anderson, Piqua 45356
s Cummins, Mrs. Lou, 4983 Smoketalk Ln., Westerville 43081
s Eakin, Mrs. Diana D., 396 Ridge Ave., Newark 43055
s Fultz, Teresa A., 819 Lori Court, Sidney 45365
+*Garner, Mrs. M. E., 1010 Edgewood SE, No. Canton 44720
Gohr, Georgann, 997 Lake Breeze Rd., Sheffield Lake 44054
*Grinstead, Mrs. Carter H., 1864 Berkshire Rd., Columbus 43221
Lott, Mrs. Ralph E., 523 Surgeon Dr., Akron 44319
*Lusk, Mrs. Elmer C., 1173 Oakland Ave., Columbus 43212
s Martin, Mary, 1807 Baldridge Rd., Columbus 43221
Miller, Mrs. Thelma, 1771 Kermit Ave., Columbus 43207
Muster, Jacqueline, 247 Valeside NW, Massillon 44646
* Neumann, Linda A., 11620 Mapleridge Dr., N. Royalton 44133
Owens, Mrs. Linda, 1762 Stemwood Dr., Columbus 43228
+*Savage, Mrs. James S., 39 Mead Dr., Chillicothe 45601
Shields, Marilyn, 4032 Lenox-New Lyme Rd., Jefferson 44047
+*Tucker, Mrs. Leroy, 2812 N. Star Ave., Columbus 43221

Oklahoma

Bjorkman, Mrs. Linda, 10508 S. 198th E. Ave., Broken Arrow 74014
s Carter, Judith M., 10155 E. 25th St., Tulsa 74129
Cotten, Jeanne M., 4402 E. 105th Pl., Tulsa 74137
s Enos, Phyllis, 11033 E. 26 Pl., Tulsa 74129
Hicks, Mrs. Susan, 1920 E. 2nd #3506, Edmond 73034
+*Howlett, Mrs. E. A., 4916 E. 38th Pl., Tulsa 74135
Klimek, Mary Nell, Rt. 1 Box 51-B, Devol 73531
McCawley, Edna R., 1721 S. Fulton, Tulsa 74112
s McGaha, Linda Jo, Box 273, Disney 74340
s Moerer, Nancy, 2106 E. 51st St. B., Tulsa 74105
s Sutton, Mrs. Pat, 1707 S. 77 E Ave., Tulsa 74112
Young, Jimmy L., Oakland Dr., McAlester 74501

Oregon

s Nielsen, Bonnie Jean, 2381 Harvard Dr., Eugene 97402
Pennsylvania

s Branson, Enid, 2026 Pleasant Ave., Glenside 19038
Brooks, Mrs. Joy P., 2601 Pennsylvania Ave., Apt. #312A, Philadelphia 19130
* Callahan, Mrs. Betty, 6 Pennsylvania Ave., Fairless Hills 19030
s Cass, Margaret, 920 Andorra Rd., Lafayette Hill 19444
Cooper, Frances M., 492 Pinecrest Rd., Springfield 19064
Easter, Mrs. Alice, 368 E. Gorgas Ln., Philadelphia 19119
s Girvin, Mrs. John M., 1109 Putnam Blvd., Wallingford 19086
s Girvin, Mr. John M., 1109 Putnam Blvd., Wallingford 19086
s Hanna, Susan, 472 Store Rd., Harleysville 19438
s Hansberger, Betsy, 8006 Cheltenham Ave., Philadelphia 19118
+m Hansen, Mrs. H. N., 708 Wyndale Rd., Jenkintown 19046
s James, Daryl, 1595 Oakleaf Lane, Pittsburgh 15237
Jones, Mrs. Richard I., 909 Louise Ln., W. Chester 19382
+*Lyons, Mr. William R., 38 Indian Creek Dr., Levittown 19057

Lyons, Mrs. William R., 38 Indian Creek Dr., Levittown 19057
McMullen, Joyce, 478 Valley View Dr., Langhorne 19047
O'Neill, Mrs. June, 7905 Cadillac Ln., Philadelphia 19128
Rolph, Mrs. Helen P., 7207 Greishem Rd., Philadelphia 19119
Seborowski, Vera, 1806 Cynthia Ln., Feasterville 19047
* Shannon, Mrs. Thomas, Jr., 8845 Norwood Ave., Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia 19118

s Shaw, Mrs. Carolyn, 1963 Virginia Ave., Bensalem 19020

s Smith, Judith, 7808 Conwell Rd., Laverock 19118

Stahl, Julia L., 86 S. Hershey Rd., Harrisburg 17112

+m Tinari, Mrs. Anne, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley 19006

s Weiland, John, 31 Maple View Dr., Feasterville 19047

Rhode Island

Feeoney, Judith, 7 Circle Dr., RR2, Coventry 02816

Mashuta, John R., 1088 Smith St., Providence 02908

s Miga, Cynthia A., 154 Fairweather Ave., Cranston 02910

South Carolina

* Anderson, Mrs. Faith R., 201 Morrison Dr., Goose Creek 29445

* Black, Mrs. P. R., 5318 Hartford Cir., N. Charleston 29406

+*Fields, Lucile B., 5816 Beverly Dr., Hanahan 29405

s Johnson, Judy, 5 Setfair Lane, Greenville 29615

s Johnson, Gary R., 5 Setfair Lane, Greenville 29615

* McDaniel, Helen B., 4751 Spruce St., N. Charleston 29406

* Mims, Sandra P., 1100 Palm Blvd., Isle of Palms 29451

Olson, Angela, 1805 W. Martintown Rd., N. Augusta 29841

s Overholser, Mr. Ben, 104 Jefferson Ln., Ladson 29456

s Overholser, Mrs. Ben, 104 Jefferson Ln., Ladson 29456

* Short, Mrs. Vere, 100 Dorsetshire Downs, Summerville 29483

s Stennett, Frank, 444 Millcreek Dr., Charleston 29407

Wright, Mrs. C. W., Jr., 460 Royal Oak Dr., Spartanburg 29302

Young, Mrs. Martha A., 660 Stafford Ave., Windsor Forest, Spartanburg 29302

Tennessee

Ellis, Judy, 6110 Barrentine, Bartlett 38134

* Fowler, Mrs. W. A., 4922 Flamingo Rd., Memphis 38117

Garrett, Carol, 4851 Brentdale, Memphis 38118

s Gaskin, Barbara J., 190 First Ave., Memphis 38109

s Ilardi, Mrs. Robert, 2786 North Star Dr., Bartlett 38134

s Lahren, Craig, 117 West Brow, Lookout 37350

s Littlejohn, Mrs. Ruby, 3428 Dupre, Memphis 38115

Pair, Mrs. Iona, 3578 Country Lane Cove, Memphis 38133

Phillips, Mrs. Charles R., 3028 Dumbarton, Memphis 38128

Phillips, Mr. Charles R., 3028 Dumbarton, Memphis 38128

s Shaw, Kathleen, 3454 Knight Arnold, Memphis 38118

Shirley, Mrs. Ann, 7150 Cedar Rd., Bartlett 38134

Stauffer, Helen, 2973 Falkirk Rd., Memphis 38128

Steele, Katherine, 1736 Cornelia Ln., Memphis 38117

York, Cecelia H., 3647 Rhodes Ave. No. 2, Memphis 38111

Texas

Acree, Mrs. Irvin W., 3235 Lockmoor Ln., Dallas 75220

s Adams, Mrs. Martin L., 9212 Lindaro Ln., Dallas 75228

Baca, Edith D., 901 McKee Dr., Edinburg 78539

s Bagley, Marsha A., 5918 N. Meadow Ct., Pasadena 77505

s Bang, Arnold C., 2138 Parakeet, Houston 77034

Bang, Janet, 2138 Parakeet, Houston 77034

* Barta, Mary Alice, 2209 Travis, Plano 75075

s Beasley, Betty L., 1626 Candytuft, Houston 77038

s Becerra, Hector, Jr., 3678 Hidden Dr. #601, San Antonio 78217

Beethe, Delilah, 6302 Pinole Forest Dr., Houston 77088

Bircher, Kay Wetzel, 1334 Meadowlane, Corpus Christi 78412

Broussard, Mrs. Percy J., 3820 Cobblestone, Pt. Arthur 77640

s Bruhl, Jeannine, 8406 Alta Verde, Austin 78759

s Burger, Mrs. Joanne C., 3817 Sunnydale Dr., Ft. Worth 76116

* Burr, Laura, 17411 Rustington, Spring 77379

Carpenter, Mrs. Clark, 3855 3rd St., Pt. Arthur 77642

Carter, Joan, 101 E. Ave Two, Copperas Cove 76522

s Cecil, Barbara A., 103 Tower Dr., Round Rock 78664

s Champagne, Patricia, 22214 Meadowrock Dr., Spring 77389

s Chatelain, Mrs. J. R., 2011 Grant St., Nederland 77627

* Chilcutt, Mrs. L. W., 1100 Cleckler, Ft. Worth 76111

Click, Elaine, 10251 Helmsdale, Houston 77043
 s Coleman, Kyle, 4308 Springbranch, Ft. Worth 76116
 Corley, Mrs. Dillon Q., 5804 Trail Lake Dr., Ft. Worth 76133
 * Corrigan, Mrs. John, 106 Trailbridge, Richardson 75081
 Crawford, Mrs. M. K., 735 Oban Dr., San Antonio 78216
 Crouch, Mrs. Oran, 2012 Locksley Lane, Denton 76201
 Curry, Mrs. John F., 617 Mimosa Dr., Denton 76201
 s Curtis, Elizabeth, P. O. Box 55, Schertz 78154
 s Curtis, James, P. O. Box 55, Schertz 78154
 s Davidson, Janice, Rt. 1 Box 252, Kempner 76539
 Davis, Grace, 3418 Urban, Garland 75041
 s DeLeon, Mrs. Berta, 1202 Lady Ln., Duncanville 75116
 DeLoach, Mrs. Harold, 3800 W. Waco Dr., Waco 76710
 s Denison, Una Mae, 8919 Wateka, Houston 77074
 Dixon, Mrs. Billie, 508 Christi Ln., Coppell 75019
 Dougherty, Mrs. Alto Wayne, 303 E. Pecan St., Kirbyville 75956
 s Duckworth, Sue, 525 Ann Lois, Burleson 76028
 Early, Mrs. Robert D., 5916 Walla, Ft. Worth 76133
 Fergen, Mrs. Rodney, 7517 Overhill Rd., Ft. Worth 76116
 s Fontenot, Anne, 1001 Floradale Dr., Austin 78753
 * Forcht, Mrs. Brennan A., 833 McKinney Ave., Arlington 76012
 * Foster, Mrs. Bill, 3610 Gray Dr., Mesquite 75150
 +*Foster, Mr. Bill, 3610 Gray Dr., Mesquite 75150
 Froboese, Ken, Rt. 1 Box 1074, Boerne 78006
 Garlick, Maxine S., Rt. 2 Box 761, Copperas Cove 76522
 Garner, Mrs. Harry G., 304 Buckeye Tr., Austin 78746
 s Geeslin, Wayne, 6130 SW Frwy, Apt. #529, Houston 77057
 s Geissler, Mrs. Margie, 955 Wavecrest, Houston 77062
 s Gibbs, Mrs. Newman, 608 Larue, San Marcos 78666
 Goeke, Mrs. Ruth, Rt. 1 Box 73, Brenham 77833
 Goins, Gerri, 11030 Silkwood Dr., Houston 77031
 * Golla, Billie, 1360 Winding Way, New Braunfels 78132
 s Gonzales, John, 2716 Marshall, Pasadena 77506
 s Gonzalez, Gladys, 1514 Missouri, Killeen 76541
 * Hall, Meredith M., 922 E. 14th, Houston 77009
 +*Hallum, Norita, 310 Lori Lane, Brownwood 76801
 Heres, Leona, Rt. 1 Box 100A, Taylor 76574
 s Holmes, Lisa, 625 Shadyawn, LaPorte 77571
 Home, Beth, 917 Montrose Dr., Port Neches 77651
 * Hudnall, Mrs. Gladys, 8524 Burnet Rd., Apt. 1203, Austin 78758
 * Hudson, Mrs. J. H., 2142 Campbell Rd., Houston 77080
 Hummer, Mrs. Robert L., 10606 Sunflower Lane, San Antonio 78213
 Jackson, Mrs. Edward A., 7305 LeDoux, Ft. Worth 76134
 Janson, Mary, 3920 Savanah, Garland 75041
 +*Jeffrey, Mrs. Dwight W., 1918 Williamsburg Row, Denton 76201
 Johnson, Mrs. Philip R., 5805 Old Crowley Rd., Ft. Worth 76134
 s King, Gayle S., Rt. 3 Box 112, Killeen 76541
 s Lakey, Jan, 5845 Ellsworth, Dallas 75206
 +*Lange, Mr. Raymond H., 13719 Vira Ln., Houston 77014
 s Lankford, Mary E., 2723 Healey Dr., Dallas 75228
 Lewis, Mrs. Velma, 6309 Firth Rd., Ft. Worth 76116
 s Linson, Virginia, 326 Drexel Dr., Grapevine 76051
 s Lively, Mrs. William M., Jr., 1546 Sylvan, Dallas 75208
 Looper, Mrs. Earl, 5125 8th St., Pt. Arthur 77640
 s Lyall, Petra M., 101 E Ave. Two, Copperas Cove 76522
 McEwen, Onalee H., 18103 Barbuda Ln., Houston 77058
 s Miller, Ann, 522 Willow Wisp Cir., Spring 77388
 Moskal, Ellen M., 6619 Eastwood, Houston 77021
 s Moss, Mrs. Leslie B., Jr., 611 Briarpark Dr., Houston 77042
 s Moten, Neva, P.O. Box 981, Copperas Cove 76522
 s Nabers, John P., 714 El Toro Lane, Houston 77062
 Neff, Mrs. Mary K., 630 Chamberlin Dr., Beaumont 77707
 s Nicholas, Anne M., 6007 Patrick Henry, San Antonio 78233
 s Nicholas, Richard A., 6007 Patrick Henry, San Antonio 78233
 +*Nichols, Mrs. Donald L., 2707 Ripplesprings Ct., Arlington 76016
 Nolan, Mrs. James R., 1200 Prairie Lea, Brenham 77833
 * Padgett, Mrs. T. W., 2005 Mill Creek Rd., Arlington 76010
 Patterson, Mrs. W. H., 219 Brookside Dr., Lindale 75771
 s Peeples, Craig, 819 Dominik, College Station 77840
 * Perkins, Gevieve, 9807 Foxrun Ct., Houston 77080
 Pinion, Becky, 303 W. Saunders, League City 77573
 Pittman, Hortense, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio 78233
 Pittman, Sundown, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio 78233
 * Ramser, Mrs. Charles, 2413 Martin, Wichita Falls 76308
 +*Ray, Linda, Rt. 1, Box 244, College Station 77840
 s Reddell, Janey E., 2408 Cedar Lane, Schertz 78154
 * Rexilius, Mrs. Larry, 5634 Yarwell, Houston 77096
 Rhodes, Mrs. M. W., P. O. Box 57, Manchaca 78652
 * Riquelmy, Mrs. Robert, 506 Winslow, Bellair 77401
 Rogers, Jo Anne, P. O. Box 653, Copperas Cove 76522
 s Rose, Mary Ann, 4615 Hawkhaven Lane, Austin 78727
 s Sanders, Sandy, 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio 78221
 s Sanders, Shirley L., 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio 78221
 s Scott, Iris, 11840 Rimrock Trail, Austin 78737
 s Seales, Evelyn, 1507 West Ln., Killeen 76542
 s Secret, Mrs. Marilyn, 2822 Main Ave., Copperas Cove 76522
 SoRelle, Tom, 734 20th Ave. N, Texas City 77590
 Stallings, Mrs. W. B., 3709 Glenmont Dr., Ft. Worth 76133
 Steele, Iva B., 1216 Austin Ave., Brownwood 76801
 s Stenger, Joyce A., 15900 Space Center Blvd. #F-13, Houston 77062
 Stevens, Nancee A., 2421 27th St., Nederland 77627
 Stiefel, Mrs. Ann, P. O. Box 567, LaPorte 77571
 Suplee, Patty, 12800 Briarforest 72, Houston 77077
 Taggart, Mrs. Byron E., 326 Barbara Dr., San Antonio 78216
 Thomas, Carol, 9813 Deer Trail Dr., Houston 77038
 s Thompson, Mrs. Robert C., 198 Fairway Dr., Granbury 76048
 * Turner, Mrs. Byron, P. O. Box 29727, Dallas 75229
 Urquhart, Charlis, 5542 Whispering Cr., Houston 77017
 Walbrick, Mrs. J. M., 5235 Kingston Dr., Wichita Falls 76310
 s Welchel, Lynda, 9505 Wildwood Ridge, San Antonio 78250
 * Wheeler, Mrs. T. L., P. O. Box 225829, Dallas 75222
 Whitfield, Mrs. Vernielea, 2511 Wedglea No 1002, Dallas 75211
 * Wiesner, Mrs. J. J., 533 Olmos Dr. E, San Antonio 78212
 * Wilson, Dottie, 3900 Carter Creek Pkwy., Bryan 77802
 * Wright, Mrs. Floyd, 2106 Woodland Park Dr., Houston 77077
 +*Young, Mrs. Frances, 6109 Shadow Mountain Dr., Austin 78731

Utah

s Abe, Clifford, 1570 S 1100 East, Salt Lake City 84105
 Anderson, Mrs. Betty, 604 W. 800 N., W. Bountiful 84087
 s Crandall, Edythe E., 886 Kensington Ave., Salt Lake City 84105
 Goe, Edith, 1610 S. 1200 E., Salt Lake City 84105
 Goodfellow, Eva, 773 Arrowhead Lane, Murray 84107
 s Jacobson, Elizabeth R., 861 East 500 South, Bountiful 84010
 Jones, Mrs. John H., 1786 Millcreek Way, Salt Lake City 84106
 s Kano, Lynn, 2858 E. Willow Creek Dr., Sandy 84092
 Lloyd, Mrs. Ruthann, 2169 Vimont Ave., Salt Lake City 84109
 Pearce, Monte, 877E 300 N, Layton 84041
 s Rasmussen, Marjorie M., 3261 S 1800 West, Salt Lake City 84119
 s Schultz, Mary H., 1122 E 6th N, Bountiful 84010

Virginia

+*Boland, Mrs. Mary A., 6415 Wilcox Ct., Alexandria 22310
 Carter, Mrs. Catherine A., 3809 Silina Dr., Virginia Beach 23452
 s Coley, A. Wayne, P. O. Box 8568, Richmond 23226
 s Cox, Mrs. B. M., 451 Hawthorne Dr., Danville 24541
 s Doggett, Mrs. C. Ray, 5309 Windingbrook Rd., Richmond 23230
 Fields, Grace O., Rt. 3 Box 1135, Trevilians 23093
 * Giangerelli, Mary Ann, 2710 Viking Dr., Hemdon 22070
 Greenawalt, Mrs. Barbara, 4803 Fairlake Ln., Glen Allen 23600
 s Gross, Marianne D., 3115 River Edge Dr., Portsmouth 23703
 s Grundy, Mrs. Alice D., 3018 Hungry Spring Rd., Richmond 23228
 +*Jones, Laurene, 3430 Luttrell Rd., Annandale 22003
 Long, Ms. Sharon A., 1546 Heritage Hill Dr., Richmond 23233
 +*McKneely, Mrs. Thomas B., 9229 Arlington Blvd., #437, Fairfax 22031
 * Nuyianes, Opal L., 12808 Thompson Rd., Fairfax 22033
 s Peterson, Barbara, 4120 Croatan Rd., Richmond 23235
 Promersberger, Mrs. Beverly, 8530 Pappas Way, Annandale 22003
 +*Skelton, Mrs. Stanley E., 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church 22041
 s Turley, Mr. David E., 9 Blair Rd., Fredericksburg 22405
 Van, Mrs. Richard R., 314 Falmouth, Hampton 23669

* Wilson, John E., 6139 Willowick Lane, Springfield 22152
Washington

Sabatino, Kathy, 2019 10th Ave., Clarkston 99403
Wisconsin

+*Achauer, Jeannine, 1296 N. Whitefish Lake Lane, Minocqua 54548
Achauer, Mrs. Jean, 1296 N. Whitefish Lake Lane, Minocqua 54548

Barry, Nancy, 2533 Memorial Dr., Green Bay 54303

s Demody, Cathleen, 2813 E. Crawford Ave., St. Francis 53207

s Eberle, Mrs. Henry, N 93 W 17229 Devonwood Rd., Menomonee Falls 53051

Fiedler, Mrs. Leon, Rt. 1, Prescott 54021

Fossum, Mrs. Dorothy, 3177 N. 95th St., Milwaukee 53222

Geisler, Mrs. Arthur W., 1516 E. Olive St., Shorewood 53211

George, Suzanne, 3473 S. 83rd St. Apt. 4, Milwaukee 53219

George, John, 3473 S. 83rd St. Apt. 4, Milwaukee 53219

Maas, Mrs. Robert L., 9727 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee 53227

* Mengsol, Ruth E., 5616 W. Cairdel Ln., Mequon 53092

+*Merrell, Mrs. Irene, W 283 Hillendale Dr., Oconomowoc 53066

Plummer, Mrs. Marvin, 2452 Longtail Beach Ln., Suamico 54173

Robinson, Pat, 1641 Bruce Lane, Green Bay 54303

Roe, Mrs. John F., 4417 Boulder Terrace, Madison 53711

s Shepherdson, Mrs. Robert E., 811 Daffodil Lane, Beloit 53511

s Shepherdson, R. E., 811 Daffodil Lane, Beloit 53511

Thielin, Mrs. Carol J., 1501 Hillcrest Dr., Green Bay 54303

Torbeck, Terri N., 1324 E. Kensington, Shorewood 53211

s Vercauteran, Mrs. Peter, 1035 Meadow View Ln., Depere 54115

Wall, Mrs. William A., 4742 Lafayette Dr., Madison 53705

* Wilkening, Karter G., 2705 S. 45th St., Milwaukee 53219

s Wilson, Joan K., 13830 Watertown Plank Rd., Elm Grove 53122

s Winke, Carol, 1705 N. 68th St., Wauwatosa 53213

1988 AVSA Affiliates

This list includes all AVSA Affiliated Chapters and their presidents as of July 31, 1988. The asterisk (*) denotes 100% AVSA members.

(Editor's Note: This is the current list of Affiliates in the AVSA office. If there are any changes, additions or deletions, please contact Nancy Lawrence, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704.)

INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIA

AFRICAN VIOLET ASSOCIATION, Mrs. Joy Shaw, 81 Farnell Ave., Carlingford, New South Wales 2118

AV-GESNERIAD SOCIETY OF NSW, John Hodges, P. O. Box 173, Homebush, Sidney NS 2140

AVGS OF CANBERRA, INC., Helen McMaster, Griffin Centre, Bunda St., Canberra City, ACT 2601

AVS OF AUSTRALIA, Mrs. Joan Bryden, 30 Lancaster St., East Bentleigh, Victoria 3165

AVS OF QUEENSLAND, Joan Youngberry, 64 Armadale St., St. Lucia 4067, Brisbane, Queensland

AVS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, Mrs. B. Jarmyn, 11 Thomgate Dr., Belair 5052

AVS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, Mrs. Jill Streck, 14 Eden St., Innaloo 6018

BUDERIM DISTRICT AVS, Stella Gilmore, 2 Kent Court, Buderim, Queensland

EARLYMORN AV GROUP, Dorothy Bullen, 83 Albion Rd., Ashburton, Victoria 3147

HUNTER VALLEY AVS, Lyn Summerville, 2 Malwood Ave., Macquarie Hills, N.S.W. 2285

BAHAMAS

BAHAMAS AVS, Mrs. Sybil Strachan, P. O. Box G.T. 2048, Nassau BERMUDA

***BERMUDA AVS**, Mrs. Ivy Woods, P.O. Box HM972, Hamilton HMDX CANADA

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Jean L. Stanford, Box 683, 68 Connaught Ave., Middletown, NS B0S 1P0

ASSOC. DES AMATEURS VIOLETTES AFR., Denis Croteau, 3055 Terrasse Abenaquis, Longueuil, Quebec J4M 2B6

AVS OF GREATER MONTREAL, Charles Laws, 4331 Juneau St., Pierrefonds, Quebec H9H 2C8

***AVSA JUDGES COUNCIL OF ONTARIO**, Mrs. Elizabeth Tapping, 1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5

CAREFREE GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Mrs. Dietlind Stice, 56 Krivel Crescent, Regina, Sask S4R 5C5

CHARLOTTETOWN AVS, 202 Spring Park Rd., Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 3Y9

DELBROOK AVS, Mrs. Colleen Henderson, 5855 Falcon Rd., W. Vancouver, BC V7W 1W5

EDMONTON AVS, Mrs. Margaret V. Jarratt, 11736-37B Ave., Edmonton, Alberta T6J 0K4

FIRST HALIFAX AVS, Mrs. Mary Sue Goulding, 1096 Ridgewood Dr., Halifax, NS B3H 3Y4

LAKESHORE AVS, Miss Sandra Lex, 70 Enfield Ave., Toronto, Ontario

M8W 1T9

LONDON AVS & GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Shirley Bellows, R. R. 1 Arva, Ontario, N0M 1C0

MONCTONIAN AVS, Mrs. Laura Mclellan, P. O. Box 4085, Moncton, NB, E1A 6E7

NUTANA VIOLETS, Beatrice A. Smith, 56 Murphy Cres., Saskatoon, Sask S7J 2T4

OAKVILLE AVS, Mrs. Josefina Fitzwilliam, 2120 Parkway Dr., Burlington, Ontario L7P 1S4

QUEEN CITY AVS, Louis Robinson, 3940 Qu'Appelle Dr., Regina, Sask, S4N 3X4

ROYAL SAINT PAULIA CLUB, Mrs. Anne Moffett, P.O. Box 198, Sussex, N.B. E0E 1P0

STAMPEDE CITY AVS, Hans Vandam, 6015 Lockinvar Rd. SW, Calgary, Alberta T3E 5X4

THE AVS OF CALGARY, Winston J. Goretsky, 3308 Barr Rd. NW, Calgary, Alberta T2L 1M8

THE VANCOUVER AVC, Frederick Thomas, #207-1850 Comox St., Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1R3

TORONTO AVS, Mrs. Betty Tapping, 1512-511 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5

TOTEM AVS OF VANCOUVER, Mrs. H. M. Sale, 455 E. 17th Ave., Vancouver, BC V5V 1B2

WEST ISLAND AVS, Charles E. Laws, 4331 Juneau St., Pierrefonds, Quebec H9H 2C8

WINNIPEG AVS, Jan Andrews, 9 River Rd., Winnipeg, Man R2M 3Z1

YORK AVS, Mrs. Violet Wood, 290 Lincoln Rd., Fredericton, NB, E3B 2A3

ENGLAND

THE SAINTPAULIA AND HOUSEPLANT SOCIETY, Richard Gilbert, 54 Queensborough Terrace, London W2 3SH

HONG KONG

AVS OF HONG KONG LTD., Mr. Leung Tai Hung, P. O. Box 99075 (T.S.T.), Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon

JAPAN

ALL JAPAN SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Mr. Osamu Tokugawa, 6-11 Shibuya 2-Chome, Shibuya-Ku, Tokyo 150

MEXICO

***PRIMER CLUB DE VIOLETAS**, Guadalupe De Alonso, Rio Pantepco 1122 Col. Valle Ote, Garza Garcia NL 66220

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE AVS, Alex Duncan, 14 Marion Ave., Southfield, 7800 Cape Town

TRANSVAAL AVS, Joan Halford, Union Farm, Box 760, Pyramid

WEST RAND AVS, Lukas M. Otto, P.O. Box 309, Muldersdrift, 1747

SOUTH AMERICA

CLUB PERUANO DE VIOLETAS, Marta Caceres, Casilla 18-1413, Lima 18 Peru

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DIXIE AVS, Mrs. Sandra Mims, 1100 Palm Blvd., Isle of Palms, SC 29451

Alabama

AV STUDY CLUB, Mrs. Elinor Curtright, 3321 Fountain Lane-A, Montgomery 36116

AVS OF THE WIREGRASS, Mrs. Pat Grimm, 314 Lakeshore Dr., Enterprise 36330

AVS OF MADISON CO., Donna Herda, 9910 Willow Cove Rd. SE, Huntsville 35802

BAMA BELLES & BEAUX AVS, Mrs. Edna Ward, 1319 Clearmont Circle, Opelika 36801

*CAPITAL CITY AVS OF MONTGOMERY, Mrs. Wilma Culver, 1128 Druid Hills Dr., Montgomery 36111

COVINGTON AVS, Imogene Sorrells, P.O. Box 134, Gantt 36038

*EARLYBIRD VIOLET CLUB, Elizabeth K. Hayes, 3812 Buckingham Pl., Birmingham 35243

HUNTSVILLE AVS, Carrie Armbrester, 247 Millstream Dr., Huntsville 35806

MAGIC CITY AVS, Kay Rice, Rt. 2 Box 275, Leeds 35094

*MONTGOMERY AVS, Gay Harrison, 3119 Mace Ave., Montgomery 36108

MUSCLE SHOALS AVS, Louise Thomas, 217 Baldwin, Florence 35630

SHOALS AV ENTHUSIASTS, Connie Garner, Rt. 4 Box 473, Killen 35645

*SOUTH CENTRAL AV JUDGES COUNCIL, Elizabeth Fuller, 3412 S. Perry St., Montgomery 36105

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY AVC, Leroy Pate, Rt. 4 Box 160 F, Gordo 35466

Alaska

*AURORA BOREALIS AVS, Amelia Walsh, 2045 Eastridge Dr., Anchorage 99501

*LAST FRONTIER AVS, Lucy Moody, P.O. Box 670370, Chugiak 99567

Arizona

ARIZONA STATE AV COUNCIL, Sylvia Sagert, 5503 N. Calle Del Santo, Phoenix 85018

*DESERT SUN AVS, Dr. Barbara Vanderleest, P. O. Box 733, Carefree 85377

*SUNSET AVS, Ann Stoetzer, 2114 West Luke Ave., Phoenix 85015

SUNSITES AVC, Donna Starlings, P. O. Box 260, Pearce 85625

TEMPE AV CULTURE CLUB, Millie Smith, 3033 N. Hayden Rd., Scottsdale 85251

THE LITTLE GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Mrs. Sonja Wernke, 7231 N. Ulene, Tucson 85741

TUCSON AVS, Carolyn Anderson, 4717 E. Bermuda St., Tucson 85712

WHITE MOUNTAIN AVS, Mrs. Rozella Stiarwalt, Rt. 2 Box 1532, Lakeside 85929

Arkansas

BLUFF CITY AVC, Mary Loewer, 18 Galway, Wynne 72396

CENTRAL ARKANSAS AVS, Lois Harris, 5901 Stagecoach Rd., Little Rock 72076

*GREEN THUMB AVC, Mrs. Ruby Pope, 1632 E. 5th Rd., Fayetteville 72701

L'ARK VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Modell Bunn, 101 Pine, Hamburg 71646 California

ALUM ROCK AVS, Mary Isabel Dale, 1350 Oakland RD#1, San Jose 95112

*AV COUNCIL OF SO. CALIF, Frances King, 3327 28th St., San Diego 92104

AV HOBBYISTS OF SACRAMENTO, Minnie T. Mobley, 3340 M St., Sacramento 95816

*AV JUDGES COUNCIL OF NO. CALIF, Anne Jantzen, 2725 Katrina Way, Mt. View 94040

AVS OF MONTEREY PENINSULA, Mrs. Corinna Rees, 1035 Bioncho Rd., Pebble Beach 93953

AVS OF MONTROSE, Luetta Kirker, 4845 Castle Rd., La Canada 91011

*AVS OF SAN FRANCISCO, Gary R. Beck, 1155 Pine St. #4, San Francisco 94109

*AVS OF SOUTH BAY, Mrs. Dorothy Gawienowski, 1140 N. Umberland Dr., Sunnyvale 94087

*AVSA JUDGES COUNCIL OF SO. CALIF., Frances C. King, 3327 28th St., San Diego 92104

BAKERSFIELD AVS, Shirley Farnsworth, 7804 Gallop Dr., Bakersfield 93309

BALBOA PARK AVS, Helen Lagamma, 7644 Circle Dr., Lemon Grove 92045

BURBANK AVS, Laura Wind Hausen, 508 E. Palm #1, Burbank 91501

CAPITAL CITY AVS, Oscar Faoro, 7361 22nd St., Sacramento 95822

CENTRAL CALIF. AVS, Mrs. Jacquie Burrious, 4084 N. Katy Ave., Fresno 93722

CHULA VISTA AVS, Mrs. Carole Scelsi, 521 Orange Ave. #139, Chula Vista 92011

DELTA SAINTPAULIA AND GESNERIAD SOCIETY, Ruth Jo McCoy, 605 Pringle Ave. Sp. #44, Galt 95632

DIABLO VALLEY AV GROWERS, 858 Madigan Ave., Concord 94518

FANCY BLOOMERS, 189 Bailache Ave., Healdsburg 95448

GRANADA HILLS AVS, Mrs. Carolyn Taylor, 10952 Etiwanda Ave., Northridge 91326

GROW & STUDY GESNERIAD CLUB, Mama Striepens, 2225 Deep Grove Ave., Rowland Hgts 91748

HEARTLAND AVS, Kemary Crowder, 8862 Shaula Way, San Diego 92126

LOS ANGELES AVS, Mrs. Marion Pinkston, 5216 Marburn Ave., Los Angeles 90043

*NITE BLOOMERS AVC, Doreen Hassan, 3633 Springbrook Ave., San Jose 95148

*NO. CALIF. COUNCIL OF AVS, Barbara Elkin, P. O. Box 726, Clearlake 95422

ORANGE COUNTY AVS, Leonard Re, 9144 Helm Ave., Fountain Valley 92708

PASADENA AVS, Helen Carpenter, 2358 Montrose, Montrose 91020

PINOLE AVS, Pauline Graham, 2675 Simas Ave., Pinole 94564

POMONA VALLEY AVS, Doris Ashby, 2250 7th St., La Verne 91750

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY AVS, Olive Pratt, 11604 Cielo Lane, Loma Linda 92354

SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AVS, Mrs. Beverly Decker, 7430 Stanford Ave., La Mesa 92041

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Mary Anne Blancher, 19536 Minnehaha St., Northridge 91326

*SAN JOAQUIN AVS, Mrs. Mary Lloyd, 130 So. Orange, Lodi 95240

*SAN MATEO COUNTY AVS, Enid Wood, 666 Knoll Dr., San Carlos 94070

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AVC, Mrs. Dorothy Simms, 395 S. Fair Oaks Ave., Sunnyvale 94086

SIERRA VIOLET LOVERS, Nadine Wade, 475 W. Ruma Rancho Court, Porterville 93257

SOUTH COAST AVS, Patsy A. Allsup, 24908 President Ave., Harbor City 90710

STANISLAUS COUNTY AVS, Inez Cobb, 22742 Yosemite Blvd. #20, Waterford 95386

*SUBURBAN AV FRIENDS, Harriette Poss, 12 Kelton Cte. Ln., San Mateo 94403

THE GLENDALE AVS, Mr. Carroll McCarroll, 4100 Perlita, Los Angeles 90039

THOUSAND OAKS AVS, Floyd Lawson, 1100 W. Huntington Dr. #21, Arcadia 91006

TOWN AND COUNTRY AVS, Eden Luntao, 2563 Grambling Way, Riverside 92507

TUSTANA AVS, Mrs. Denzel Probert, 3213 Dakota St., Costa Mesa 92626

VENTURA COUNTY AVS, Marcia Shaver, 1187 Buckingham Dr., Thousand Oaks 91360

YOLO VIOLETEERS, Kathie Moore, Rt. 1 Box 775, Woodland 95695 Colorado

AVC OF GOLDEN, Jean Miller, 6661 Upham Dr., Arvada 80003

CAPITAL CITY AVS, Mrs. Catherine Balliu, 20765 E. 44th Ave., Denver 80249

GLOXINIA GESNERIAD GROWERS, Mrs. Miriam Denham, 2945 3rd St., Boulder 80302

HAPPINESS IS AVS, Joan Sapp, 1502 6th Ave., Longmont 80501

***H COUNTRY JUDGES WORKSHOP**, Dorothy J. Roesch, 2575 S. Wadsworth Court, Denver 80227

***HII HOPES STUDY CLUB**, Mrs. Mae Ellen Rogers, 5737 E. Floyd Ave., Denver 80222

LOVELAND SWEETHEART VIOLETS, Doris Eckholt, 617 W. 9th, Loveland 80537

PIKES PEAK AVS, Helen Wand, 2909 Palmer Park Blvd., Colorado Springs 80909

PUEBLO AV CLUB, Mrs. Eilene Even, 825 W. Routt Ave., Pueblo 81004

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AV COUNCIL, Mrs. Frances B. Ratte, P.O. Box 382, Black Hawk 80422

***ROCKY POTTERS**, Deborah S. Griffith, 1557 S. Sheridan Blvd., Lakewood 80226

***THE AVS OF DENVER CHAPTER I**, Mary Ellen Shoun, 7390 W. 74th Place, Arvada 80003

THE VIOLETEERS, Mrs. Katherine Brago, 1340 S. Eaton St., Lakewood 80226

ULTRA VIOLET CLUB, Carole Schiffelin, 7651 S. Ensenada Ct., Aurora 80016

ZEST OF THE WEST AVS, Lynette Johnson, 5928 Lakeview Dr., Ft. Collins 80526

Connecticut

CENTRAL CONN. AVS, Mrs. Arthur England, 138 Pheasant Dr., Rocky Hill 06067

LOWER CONN. VALLEY AVS, Ruth Hatch, Rt. 148, Killingworth 06417

***NAUGATONIC AVS**, Roger Wheeler, P. O. Box 263, Shelton 06484

NUTMEG STATE AVS, Louis Nagy, 180 Bethke Rd., Killingworth 06417

SILVERMINE AVS, Mrs. Jean Taylor, 23 Geneva Rd., Norwalk 06850

THIMBLE ISLAND AVS, Barbara Lemere, 48 Center Road Circle, Orange 06477

***WINDSOR AVS**, Mrs. Vivian Hiltz, 237 E. Robbins Ave., Newington 06111

Delaware

DELAWARE AVS, Mrs. Albert P. Pirone, 10 Kenleigh Arundel, Wilmington 19808

Florida

AFRICAN VIOLET ASSOC. OF GARDENERS, Alyce Droege, 1318 Kewanee Tr., Maitland 32751

***AV COUNCIL OF FLORIDA**, Mary Lou Harden, 910 W. Hilsboro, Seffner 33584

AVS OF FT. WALTON BEACH, Marcella Wright, 1009 Juniper Ave., Niceville 32578

AVS OF JACKSONVILLE, Charles Hartman, 10274 Jolynn Rd., Jacksonville 32225

***AVS OF PENSACOLA**, Mrs. Gayle Venticinque, 6673 Bellview Pines Rd., Pensacola 32506

***CENTRAL FLORIDA AVS**, Mrs. James E. Sprayberry, 840 Linton Ave., Orlando 32809

DIXIE MOONBEAM AVS, Mrs. Corrine Daily, 321 Palo Alto Ave., Panama City 32401

***EDISON AVC**, Pauline Coblenz, 300 Broadview Dr., Ft. Meyers 33905

FIRST LAKELAND AVS, Vernon Farnsworth, 496 S. Garden Dr., Lakeland 33813

GULF AVC, Eleanor Duerr, 1307 S.E. 27th Terrace, Cape Coral 33904

GULF COAST AVS, Robert E. Reilly, 2038 Cemetery Rd., Holiday 33590

LAKES & HILLS AVS, Mrs. Dorothy Sundquist, 107 Big Tree Drive, Fruitland Park 32731

MID-POLK AVS, Elaine Butterfield, 319 Granada Rd., Auburndale 33823

MIRACLE STRIP AVS, Mrs. Helen Peterson, Rt. 4 Box 694, Panama City 32405

NIGHT BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB, Mr. W. E. Mertz, 738 N. Fletcher Ave., Fernandina Beach 32034

SARASOTA AVS, Eileen Sailing, 5811 11th St. E, Bradenton 34203

SOUTH FLORIDA AVS, Phillip Iloo, 8580 S. W. 124th St., Miami 33156

***SUNCOAST AVS**, Sandra Williams, 1029th St. E., Tierra Verde 33715

TALLAHASSEE NIGHT MAGIC, Lynwood McCauley, 2111 Lee Ave., Tallahassee 32312

TAMPA AVS, Mary Lou Harden, 910 W. Hilsboro, Seffner 33584

THE NITE BLOOMERS AVS, Mrs. Gwen Hayes, 2824 Oak Cove Lane, Jacksonville 32211

THE VIOLET PATCH, Linda M. Marshall, 5153 NW 30th Ct., Margate 33063

TREASURE COAST AVS, Huddy Pailthorp, 2400 S. Ocean Dr., 4151, Ft. Pierce 34949

UPPER PINELLAS AVS, Erwin F. Kappauf, 5364 Ferndale Pl., Pinellas Park 34666

WALTON AVS, Mrs. Frances Statz, 203 E. Nelson Ave., DeFuniak Springs 32433

Georgia

AVC OF GREATER ATLANTA, Pierce Cumption, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31093

CLASSIC CITY AVS, Elise Ross, 151 Firewood Court, Athens 30605

FIRST SANTPAULIA SOC., Mrs. Blanche Woodward, 3763 Citation Dr., Decatur 30034

FLINT RIVER AVS, Elsie Dugan, 901 Society Ave., Albany 31701

GEORGIA AV GROWERS CLUB, Joan Cumption, 219 Sunset Dr., Warner Robins 31093

***GEORGIA AV JUDGES SOCIETY**, Hugh Mackey, 299 Stockwood Dr., Woodstock 30188

GEORGIA STATE AV COUNCIL, Laura Walker, 562 Rue Montague, Stone Mountain 30083

HEART OF GEORGIA AVS, James O. Brantley, 3283 Brookwood Ave., Macon 31204

HIGH HOPES VC OF SOUTH ATLANTA, Mrs. Barbara Grant, 3435 Dodson Terrace, East Point 30344

***MASTER CITY AV & GESNERIAD SOCIETY**, Mrs. Mildred M. Wheatley, 2207 Breckenridge Ave., Augusta 30904

MIDDLE GEORGIA AVS, Bill Hamrick, 106 Hillridge, Warner Robins 31093

MILLEDGEVILLE AVC, Ruth H. Cranford, P.O. Box 5, Milledgeville 31061

ST. MARIANSANTPAULIA SOCIETY, Mrs. Belle Griffin, Box 383, St. Marys 31558

TARA AVC, Colleen Hudson, 2261 Chambers Rd., Stockbridge 30281

Hawaii

AVS OF HAWAII, Miss Dee Ann Ling, 2862 Manoa Rd., Honolulu 96822

Idaho

MAGIC VALLEY SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Mrs. Ruth A. Hartman, 722 Green Acre Dr., Twin Falls 83301

Illinois

AV FANCIERS, INC., Florise M. Hogan, 1220 31st St., Rockford 61108

AVS OF NO. ILLINOIS, Mrs. Mildred Aske, 2702 N. Monticello, Chicago 60647

***BARRINGTON BLOOMERS**, Mrs. Joan Pugsley, 28693 Ravine Dr., Barrington 60010

EVENING BLOOMERS AVS, Linda Symmonds, 5250 N. Knoxville, Peoria 61614

EXHIBITORS AVS, Mrs. Iris Frazier, 6475 Galena Rd., Bristol 60512

FORT MASSAC AVS, Brenda Jenkins, Rt. 1, Grand Chain 62941

***GLENVIEW/NORTH SHORE AVS**, Barbara Goodsell, 429 Cherry Ln., Glenview 60025

ILLINOIS AVS, INC., Adelle Johnson, 4901 N. Ozanam Ave., Norridge 60656

LAKE SHORE AVS, Mrs. Janice Bruns, 1220 Stratford Lane, Hanover Park 60103

MARGARET SCOTT AVS, Mrs. Lois Fox, 308 Elmwood Dr., Champaign 61820

METROPOLITAN AVS OF PEORIA, Mr. Terry E. Duchien, 117 Lynn, Washington 61571

QUAD CITIES AVS, Jo Bates, 1835 14th St., Bettendorf, IA 52722

ROCKFORD AVC, Marge Bates, 3844 Highcrest Rd., Rockford 61107

***SANTPAULIA SOCIETY**, Michelle Mize, 341 McBride Ave., Dupo 62339

SUBURBAN AV ENTHUSIASTS, Charles Koch, 14727 S. Kilpatrick Ave., Midlothian 60445

TWIN CITIES AVS, Martha Compton, 3003 E. Oakland Ave., Bloomington 61701

WEDGEWOOD AVC, Ralph Gifford, 3043 Partridge Ln., Belvidere 61008
Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS AVC, Mrs. Gyneth Bamford, 527 E. 52nd St., Indianapolis 46205

KIMBERLY AVC, Lucille Mider, 6048 Haverford Ave., Indianapolis 46220

PLYMOUTH AVC, Mary Batcho, 6340 Michigan Rd., Plymouth 46563

STEUBEN COUNTY AVS, Marie I. Drerup, Box 87, 109 Bridge St., Corunna 46730
Iowa

DES MOINES AVC, Mrs. Emmett L. Norton, 5718 Ovid Ave., Des Moines 50310

***EVENING AVC/DES MOINES**, Karen Ogden, 4691 Parkview Dr., Pleasant Hill 50317

SPENCER AVS, Loretta Iverson, 1015 N. Grand, Spencer 51301
Kansas

BOOTHILL SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Frances Gripe, 2317 Thompson, Dodge City 67801

***BRIGHT PETALS AVC**, Alvin Otte, 3218 25th, Great Bend 67530

LAWRENCE AVC, Ted Luber, 3430 Lazy Brook Lane, Lawrence 66046

MANHATTAN AVS, Mrs. Doris Hofman, 3507 Musil Dr., Manhattan 66502

***WICHITA AV STUDY CLUB**, Mrs. Donna Breen, 6913 Newberry Circle, Wichita 67226
Kentucky

FIRST AVS OF LOUISVILLE, Mrs. Jean Ballintyn, 3207 Julian Dr., New Albany, IN 47150
Louisiana

ALEXANDRIA AVS, Mrs. Flora Nugent, 4203 Rigolette Rd., Pineville 71360

***ATCHAFALAYA VS OF AMERICA**, Martha Dyson, 409 Snead St., Berwick 70342

***BATON ROUGE AVS**, Mrs. J. F. Spear, 7660 Amite Church Rd., Denham Springs 70726

FIRST LONGVIEW AVS, Mrs. Frieda Baker, P. O. Box 116, Gloster 71030

***JEFFERSON AV ASSN.**, Mrs. Dorothy Benge, 5900 Wheeler Dr., Metairie 70005

LAFAYETTE AVC, Jim Parker, 209 Vennard Ave., Lafayette 70501

***LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Genelle G. Armstrong, 1313 Gardenia Dr., Metairie 70005

***RAYNE AVS**, Leora Peres, 220 S. Polk St., Rayne 70578

***SHREVEPORT AVS**, Mrs. Alton Slayton, 9406 Palmetto Lane, Shreveport 71118

***SUNDOWNERS AVS**, Anita D'Antoni, 4436 W. Brookstown Dr., Baton Rouge 70805

***TOP CHOICE AVS**, Mr. Bobby Morgan, Rt. 3 Box 458, Plain Dealing 71064

***VIOLETS AFTER FIVE**, Sallie Barlow, 30418 Fairway View Dr., Denham Springs 70726

VIOLETS ON THE BAYOU, Anaise LeBlanc, Rt. 2 Box 101-A, Napoleonville 70390
Maryland

BALTIMORE AVC, Mrs. Janet Haag, 524 Murdock Rd., Baltimore 21212

***POTOMAC COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Marie Burns, 8624 DeLegge Rd., Baltimore 21237
Massachusetts

***ALL SEASONS AVC**, Mrs. Sylvia R. Feldman, 11 Hilldale Rd., Ashland 01721

BAY STATE AVS, Mr. Bertrand Warren, P. O. Box 3664, Fall River 02722

FRIENDLY AVC, Mrs. J. Addison MacLean, 175 Mill St., Abington 02351

MERRIMACK VALLEY AVS, Margaret Proposki, 58 Exeter St., Lawrence 01843

MOBY DICK AVC, Mrs. Cherie Reimels, 754 Lafayette Rd., Tiverton 02878

NORTH SHORE AVS, Charles M. Dow, 9 Sherwood Rd., Melrose 02176

PATRIOTS AVS, Kathy Innis, 8 Maddison Lane, Lynnfield 01940

THE QUANNAPOWITT AVC, Theresa Longo, 459 Lowell St., Wakefield 01880

WACHUSETT AVS, Mrs. Lois Roy, 40 Coombs Ave. Ext., Orange 01364 Michigan

AVC OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS, Miriam K. Greene, 4127 W. Saxony Dr., SE, Grand Rapids 49508

BORDER CITIES AVC, Sheila Weiss, 6328 University Pl., Detroit 48224

MICHIGAN STATE AVS, Jeanette Benson, 8915 N. Dixboro Rd., South Lyon 48178

MID MICHIGAN AVS, Lori Dietz, 2020 140th Ave., Dorr 49323 Minnesota

AV STUDY CLUB, Russ Christensen, 3326 Lincoln St. NE, Minneapolis 55418

AVS OF MINNESOTA, Kenneth Rein, 1492 N. Hamline Ave., St. Paul 55108

FALCON HEIGHTS HILOA AVS, Mrs. Monroe Trapp, 1224 W. Hwy. 36, St. Paul 55113

NORTH STAR AV COUNCIL, Lorraine Nelson, 2430 Douglas Dr. N., Golden Valley 55422

***THE VIKING VIOLETTES**, Mrs. Shirley Hultin, 6150 Starlight Blvd. N.E., Minneapolis 55432

WONDER AVC, Mrs. Austa Clark, 3537 W. Fuller St., Minneapolis 55410 Mississippi

***CHIMNEYVILLE AVS**, Mrs. Dorothy Screws, 1425 Woodcrest Dr., Jackson 39211

HATTIESBURG AVC, Mr. Ricky Winstead, 320 S. 20th Ave., Hattiesburg 39401 Missouri

AMETHYST AVC, Mrs. Homer R. Blanton, 622 Riverside Dr., St. Charles 63303

***AVS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY**, Gene Loveland, Rt. 1 Box 414L, Grain Valley 64029

***COUNTRY SIDE AVS**, Doris L. Brown, Rt. 2 Box 196, Oak Groves 64075

GATEWAY AVC, Mrs. Marcia Jacobs, 1990 Winter Haven Dr., Imperial 63052

HEART OF MISSOURIAVS, Dorothy Anderson, 1016 Maplewood Dr., Columbia 65203

HI HOPES AVC, Mrs. Joseph A. Weisbrod, 829 Hi Crest Dr., St. Louis 63125

***INNER CITY AVS**, Barbara Jacobs-Fisher, 5119 Longhorn Trail, Florissant 63033

***LE CHATEAU AVC**, Mrs. H. L. Holt, 1128 Linden Ave., St. Louis 63117

METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS AV COUNCIL, Mrs. Lavera Eaklor, 245 Brackleigh Ln., Florissant 63031

MID AMERICA AVS, Janet Wickell, 400 N. Madison, Raymore 64083

MISSOURI VALLEY AV COUNCIL, Joyce Stork, P. O. Box 398, Arlington, NB 68002

MKO DYN-A-MITE AVS, Doris Carson, 1702 Joplin, Joplin 64804

***NIGHTSHADE AVC**, Mrs. Elmer Loyet, 3458 Montana, St. Louis 63118

***NORMANDY AVC**, Margaret Easches, 35 St. Walter Lane, Florissant 63031

***NORTHWEST AVC**, Mrs. Patricia Corzine, 11 Queen Ann Dr., Hazelwood 63042

SHO-ME AVC, Mrs. Kitty Julian, 700 Locust, Pleasant Hill 64080

SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER OF AVS, Helen Bellinger, 1240 S. Estate, Springfield 65804

***ST. LOUIS AV JUDGES COUNCIL**, Joan Aubuchon, 7330 Leona St., St. Louis 63116

***THE CAVALIER AVS**, Kay Otec, 5045 Tennessee Ave., St. Louis 63111

***THE PIED PIPERS CLUB**, Mildred Borsch, 1415 Ross Ave., St. Louis 63146

***UNPREDICTABLE AVC**, Dennis Stevens, 10420 Crystal, Kansas City 64134

***WEST COUNTY AVS**, Ardath L. Miller, 529 Ranch Dr., Manchester 63011

Montana

BILLINGS BLOOMERS AVS, Mrs. Joann Levine, 2608 Wyoming Ave., Billings 59102

GALLATIN VALLEY AVS, Marilyn McMillan, 818 S. Third, Bozeman 59715

TREASURE STATE FIRST AVS, Sharon Powell, 514 8th Ave. S., Lewistown 59457

Nebraska

HAPPY HOURS VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Duane Phillips, 730 Diamond St., Lyons 68038

LINCOLN AVS, Mrs. Ruth Cromer, 821 Elavado Ave., Lincoln 68504

METROPOLITAN AVS, Jerry Fay, 5405 No. 61 St., Omaha 68104

T & C AVS, Mildred Matejka, Rt. 1 Box 53, Dorchester 68343

Nevada

CARSON CITY AVC, Marilou De Felice, 612 Jeanell Dr., Carson City 89703

RENO-SPARKS AVS, Carol J. Mark, 1823 Fairlie Court, Sparks 89431

THE FIRST AVC, Laveme Hysell, 1202 Arrowhead Ave., Las Vegas 89106

VEGAS VALLEY AVS, Pearl Hoffenblum, #15 Tropicana Pk., 300 E. Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas 89109

New Hampshire

TWIN STATE AVS, Mrs. Kathy Stickney, R. R. 2 Box 217, Oak Ridge Road, West Lebanon 03784

New Jersey

AV CLUB OF BURLINGTON COUNTY, Mrs. Janet Sheaffer, 19 Grayson Circle, Willingboro 08046

AV CLUB OF TRENTON, Hilda Vandermeer, 36 Fogarty Dr., Trenton 08619

AVS OF NORTH JERSEY, Mrs. Emilia Rykowski, 105 Stanley St., Clifton 07013

BERGEN COUNTY AVS, Ruby Burns, 67 Garden St., Teaneck 07666

***CENTRAL JERSEY AVS**, Dale Jasaitis, 116 Forest Glen, Highland Park 08904

***NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Dale Jasaitis, 116 Forest Glen, Highland Park 08904

SEASHORE AVS OF S. JERSEY, Mrs. Eugene P. Lyness, 215 W. Seaspark Rd., Ocean City 08226

SEAVIEW AVS, Warren Comell, 134 Broad St., Eatontown 07724

***TRISTATE AV COUNCIL**, Frank Senna, 13 Harvard Way, Oakland 07436

***UNION COUNTY CHAPTER AVS**, Mrs. Jill Fischer, 59 Riverbend Road, Berkeley Heights 07922

New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE AVC, Mrs. Delmar L. Longmire, 8600 Summer Ave. NE, Albuquerque 87112

PASA TIEMPO AVC, Margaret Browne, 389 El Conejo, Los Alamos 87544

New York

AVS OF ALBANY, Iona Lynch, 273 Pawling Ave., Troy 12180

AVS OF GREATER NEW YORK, Susan Kokoszynski, 64-31 60th Rd., Maspeth 11378

AVS OF ROCHESTER, Alice Dowd, 1167 Calkins Rd., Rochester 14623

AVS OF STATEN ISLAND, Margaret Scheller, 58 Wolcott Ave., Staten Island 10312

AVS OF SYRACUSE, Gus Nordone, 305 W. Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse 13207

AVS OF WESTERN NEW YORK, Paul Kroll, 4325 Two Rod Rd., E. Aurora 14052

CAPITAL DISTRICT AVS, Helen Gifford, Box 137, Medusa 12120

CHENANGO VALLEY AVS, Helen Spencer, Lyon Brook Rd., Norwich 13815

COPPER CITY AVS, Mrs. Alice Onderkirk, 117 W. Linden St., Rome 13440

Heritage AVS of Long Island, Ann Lee, 16 Tinder Lane, Levittown 11756

HUDSON HIGHLANDS AVS, Irene Seberie, 14 Kirchner Dr., West Nyack 10994

JAMESTOWN AVC, Mrs. Jean Olson, 215 Camp St., Jamestown 14701

LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND VICINITY AVS, Gina Milliken, 7027 Rush, Lima Rd., Honeye Falls 14472

LONG ISLAND AVS, Gertrude Buckley, 1299 Chelsea Rd., Wantagh 11793

MARK TWAIN AVS, Hazel Everett, 1059 Pennsylvania Ave., Elmira 10904

***METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Jane Weber, 50 Belknap Dr., Northport 11768

MOHAWK VALLEY AVS, John G. Peck, 716 Clifton Park Center Rd., Clifton Park 12065

NASSAU AVS, Mrs. Ellie Bogin, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach 11561

***NEW YORK CITY AVS**, Mark Grigalunas, P. O. Box 885, Times Square Station, New York 10036

NEW YORK STATE AVS, Esther Mason, 79 Grove Ave., Albany 12208

***NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF AV JUDGES**, Jane P. Hiltz, 1615 Anchor Lane, Southold 11971

NIAGARA FRONTIER AVS, James H. Smith, 1126 Ferry Ave., Niagara Falls 14301

NORTH STAR AVS, Joyce Reller, Secretary, 8 Diana Hill, Huntington 11743

***PAUMANOK AVS**, Tina Pigart, 172 Beverly Rd., Hunt Station 11746

***PUTNAM AVS**, Helene M. Diener, 36 N. Main St., Brewster 10509

SWEET WATER AVS, William H. Paauwe, P. O. Box 8, Hauppauge 11788

North Carolina

AV/GESNERIAD SOCIETY OF CHARLOTTE, Eva Harp, 7511 Middlebury Place, Charlotte 28212

FIRST GOLDSBORO AVS, Frances L. Deans, 109 Longview Dr., Goldsboro 27530

GREEN THUMB AVS, Tom Batts, Box 2, Arbor Ln., Rocky Mount 27801

North Dakota

TOWN & COUNTRY AVC, Armida Waller, 8403 St. SW, Minot 58701 Ohio

***AVS OF CANTON**, Mrs. Nancy Hill, 34 Cherry Dr., North Canton 44720

***CINCINNATI AVS**, Marge Burson, 1664 Yellowglen Dr., Cincinnati 45255

COLUMBUS AVS, Mrs. Edwin Miller, 1771 Kermit Ave., Columbus 43207

FIRST AVSC OF ASHTABULA, Mrs. Milard Whitman, 1853 E. 45th St., Ashtabula 44004

GYPSY AVC, Ona Barnhart, 6565 Rt. 320, New Paris 45347

OHIO STATE AVS, Linda Neumann, 11620 Mapleridge Dr., N. Royalton 44133

PARMATOWN AVC, Velma Carpenter, 3113 Akins, N. Royalton 44133

***SPRINGFIELD AVC**, Betty Bartley, 3920 Monterey Ave., Springfield 45504

TOWN & COUNTRY AVS, Mrs. Anthony Morabito, 7075 Brightwood Dr., Painesville 44077

TRI-CITY AVS, Margaret Morrow, 1203 Covington Ave., Piqua 45356

***VIOLETS & FRIENDS CLUB**, Mrs. Norman Bradney, 1104 Anderson, Piqua 45356

Oklahoma

AVS OF GREATER TULSA, Patricia Sutton, 1707 S. 77 E Ave., Tulsa 74112

LAWTON AVS, Virginia McComas, 7703 Stonegate Place, Lawton 73505

Oregon

PORTLAND AVS, Frances Skorepa, 13657 SE Bush, Portland 97236 Pennsylvania

***AVS OF LOWER BUCKS COUNTY**, Betty Callahan, 6 Pennsylvania Ave., Fairless Hills 19030

AVS OF PHILADELPHIA, Margaret Cass, 920 Andorra Rd., Lafayette Hill 19444

AVS OF SPRINGFIELD, Betty Girvin, 1109 Putnam Blvd., Wallingford 19086
***KEYSTONE AVS**, Mrs. Gladys Souque, Rep., 4356 Penn St., Philadelphia 19124
STATE COLLEGE AVS, Roberta M. Hale, 1650 Cherry Hill Rd. South, State College 16803
Rhode Island
RHODE ISLAND AVS, Linda Raymond, 70 Shaw St., Rumford 02916 South Carolina
COLUMBIA AVS, Mrs. Ruby Stuckey, 3146 Woodson Circle, West Columbia 29169
FIRST AVS OF SPARTANBURG, Martha Young, 660 Stafford Ave., Spartanburg 29302
FLOWERTOWN VIOLET CLUB, Benjamin Overholser, 104 Jefferson Ln., Ladson 29456
GREENVILLE AVS, Betty Chiles, 301 Yorkshire Dr., Greenville 29615
NORTH CHARLESTON 1ST AVS, Helen B. McDaniel, 4751 Spruce St., No. Charleston 29406
***PEE DEE AVS**, Mrs. D. T. Trifiletti, 1169 Pickney Ave., Florence 29501 South Dakota
LAKE CITY AVC, Joyce Selchert, Rt. 1 Box 58, Hazel 57242
SO-DAK VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Martha Hegdahl, R. R. 1, Madison 57042 Tennessee
MEMPHIS AVS, Mrs. Iona Pair, 3578 Country Lane Cove, Memphis 38133
***MID-SOUTH AVS**, Judy Ellis, 6110 Barrentine Dr., Memphis 38134
NASHVILLE AVS, Lanova McCluskey, 5275 Lebanon Rd., Old Hickory 37138
TENNESSEE VALLEY AVC, Jane McNeely, 5635 Magazine Rd., Knoxville 37920
Texas
***ALPHA AVS OF DALLAS**, John Eads, 2310 Valarie Court, Garland 75043
AV CLUB OF GALVESTON, Althea Grossman, 2214 72nd, Galveston 77550
AV CULTURE CLUB, Rose Bartlett, 4208 Everglade, Pt. Arthur 77642
***AV STUDY CLUB OF HOUSTON**, Paul Downs, 4318 Dallas, Houston 77023
AVS OF BEAUMONT, Mrs. Floyd Miller, 950 Jasmine, Beaumont 77706
***AVS OF BROWNWOOD**, Mae McWilliams, Box 1084, Brady 76825
AVS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, Ruth Goeke, Rt. 1 Box 73, Brenham 77833
BRAZOS VALLEY AVC, Linda Ray, Rt. 1 Box 244, College Station 77840
***CEN-TEX RAINBOW AVC**, Marilyn Secret, 2822 Main Ave., Copperas Cove 76522
***CENTRAL TEXAS JUDGES COUNCIL**, Meredith Hall, 922 E. 14th St., Houston 77009
CONCHO VALLEY AVS, Edna Moore, 1020 N. Adams, San Angelo 76901
***CORPUS CHRISTI AVS**, Glenda K. Ehrlich, 5909 Pebble Springs, Corpus Christi 78414
***FIRST ARLINGTON AVS**, Mrs. W. H. Haugh, 2000 Woods Dr., Arlington 76010
***FIRST AUSTIN AVS**, Mrs. Newman Gibbs, 608 Larue, San Marcos 78666
FIRST AVC OF WEATHERFORD, Dorris Anderson, Rt. 4 Box 33-75, Weatherford 76086
***FIRST AVS OF DALLAS**, Mrs. Charlie Davis, 3418 Urban, Garland 75041
***FIRST AVS OF DENTON**, Clara Martin, 2216 Denison, Denton 76201
***FIRST AVS OF SAN ANTONIO**, Alberta Dietrich, 10414 Grand Park Dr., San Antonio 78239
FIRST AVS OF WICHITA FALLS, Mrs. Charles Ramser, 2413 Martin, Wichita Falls 76308
FIRST NIGHTER AVS, Mrs. Bonnie McElhannon, 5428 Oak Trail, Dallas 75232
***FORT WORTH AVS**, Mrs. Robert D. Early, 5916 Walla, Fort Worth 76113
***FOUR SEASONS AVC**, Goldie Fore, 6510 Hansen, Groves 77619
GREENTHUMB AVS/SA, Kay Tucker, 207 W. Southcross, San Antonio 78211
***LONE STAR AV COUNCIL**, Mrs. Charles Ramser, 2413 Martin, Wichita Falls 76308
LUBBOCK AVS, Nancy Mitchell, 5214 95th St., Lubbock 79423
***MAGIC KNIGHT AVS**, Alma Hummer, 10606 Sunflower Lane, San Antonio 78213
MARSHALL AVS, Jodie Johnson, 300 Merritt, Marshall 75670
***MID-COUNTY AVC**, Betty Lovett, 608 S. 7th St., Nederland 77627
MOONLIGHT AVS, Sue Duckworth, 525 Ann Lois, Burleson 76028
NASA AREA AVS, Charlsie Urquhart, 5542 Whispering Creek, Houston 77017
***NORTH TEXAS AV JUDGES COUNCIL**, Mrs. Robert Early, 5916 Walla, Ft. Worth 76133
PASADENA AVS, Pat Gonzales, 2716 Marshall, Pasadena 77506
***SAN ANTONIO AV COUNCIL**, Ann Nicholas, 6007 Patrick Henry Dr., San Antonio 78233
SAN MARCOS AVC, Louise Nicol, 1333 Chestnut, San Marcos 78666
SPRING BRANCH AVC, Mae Dennison, 8919 Wataka, Houston 77074
***SWEET VI-O-LETS AVC**, Ann Miller, 522 Willow Wisp Circle, Spring 77388
VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Jack Caldwell, 705 Lindberg, McAllen 78501
VICTORIA AVS, Joann Schrimsher, 402 Dundee, Victoria 77904 Utah
AVS OF UTAH, Ruthann Lloyd, 2169 Vimont Ave., Salt Lake City 84109
WASATCH SAINTPAULIANS, Dellavena Dolan, 410 W. 2500 South, Perry 84302
Virginia
LYNNHAVEN AVS, Margaret E. Hershberger, 3324 Hershridge Rd., Virginia Beach 23452
OLD DOMINION AVC, Beverly Promersberger, 8530 Pappas Way, Annandale 22003
RICHMOND AVS, A. Wayne Coley, 2219 Dragonfly Lane, Richmond 23235
THE TIDEWATER AVS, Catherine A. Carter, 3809 Siling Dr., Virginia Beach 23452
Washington
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RAINBOW VIOLETEERS, Sue Fricker, 595 Forest Ct. Rd.,

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Bruce Ln., Green Bay 54303

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May 22-28, 1989

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Let Me Introduce You to the R-E-A-L Lilian Jarrett

Anne Tinari

Tinari Greenhouses

Immediate Past President

Having received many letters and inquiries on the genetic background of Lilian Jarrett from some of our most successful hybridizers of variegated foliage, I felt the urge to set the record straight on this very unique type of variegated foliage.

Hybridizers have revealed to me real difficulty they encountered in using this cultivar in their hybridizing program. One botanist who is also a student of genetics, informs me this type of variegated trait can only be inherited maternally. In any case the true picture of its background may help to enlighten those who wish to use it in their seed crosses.

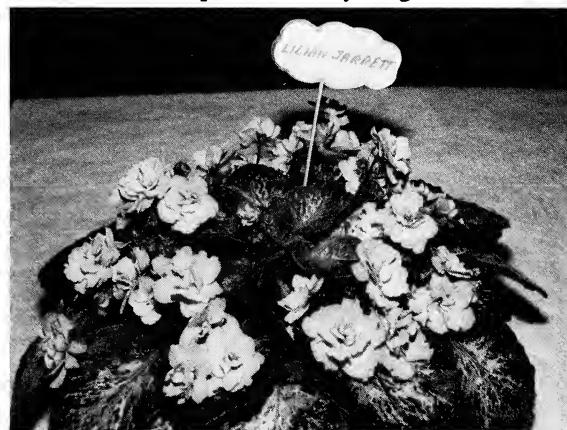
Did you know that Lilian Jarrett was registered September 8, 1958. A copy of its description and registration card in my files reads, "large, soft baby pink color blossom, plain medium green pointed leaf slightly cupped, color leaf reverse light green to pink to almost white." Parentage Frilled Rosette X Double Pink, flowers of longevity with beautiful, symmetrical growth pattern.

This plant appeared as a seedling in 1955; we grew it and marveled at its beauty with each succeeding generation. It was named for a dear adopted aunt, a woman who was a real horticulturist and African violets were well known to her back in the 1940s. She grew them in her deep floor length French windows where an outside balcony gave them just the amount of diffused light needed. Even in those days, when violets in peoples homes were few and far between and usually of one color, they were a real inspiration to me. She wrote many articles on their culture for our local and popular Philadelphia papers, drawn from her own experience and success in

growing them. She even attended the first African Violet Convention in Georgia in 1947. A gracious woman ahead of her time.

We almost hesitated to register this beautiful cultivar as at this time in our history true vivid double pinks were appearing. Let me refresh your memory. Back in 1954 at the St. Louis Convention an avalanche of deep double pink cultivars appeared. Considering this, we weren't too sure how a new light pink would survive. However, from its first listing in our catalog in 1958 it is still popular, having enjoyed the number one position on the best 100 list for five years and appearing on the honor list in June AVSA magazine in 1965.

After a period of about three years, the plant, all on its own, and quite suddenly, began to show an



The R-E-A-L Lilian Jarrett shown at the Toronto Convention of the New York African Violet Society.

interesting pattern of variegation in the foliage which has become known as the mosaic or Lilian Jarrett type. The mutation persisted and it became quite evident it was a real genetic trait that hasn't varied over the years.

Lilian Jarrett soon appeared at the local, state and national shows in both plain and variegated foliage. Ruth Carey, who was Shows and Judges Chairman at the time, discussed with us this new trait which was causing a problem. By now our complete stock was 95% variegated. Thus in our African Violet Magazine, Vol. 18, No. 1, September 1964 page 50 in the Judges Column this notice appeared:

"It has come to my attention that several judges in various shows have found Lilian Jarrett entered in variegated foliage class, rather than according to the color of the blossom which is double pink. The judges have refused to judge these plants because the information in the Handbook (July issue) registered varieties did not list them as variegated foliage. I have been in contact with Mr. and Mrs. Tinari who originated this variety and suggested to them that they add the figure 7 to the code information which is for variegated foliage. This addition should clear up the trouble, as this variety may have either plain or variegated foliage."

At this time we advised the registrar to change the description on Lilian Jarrett from P-28-DS to L.P. 3789dL. The registration number of 1060 remained as the original registration; this change was made in the AVSA registration list published Vol. 18, No. 5, July 1965.

It is still a very popular cultivar and still winning honors; a most recent one at the New York State Convention in Toronto, Canada in 1987.

Another myth about the variegated types is that they did not exist before 1958. This is a fallacy. As far back as 1954 we listed the variety Frosty in our annual catalog, description as follows: Frosty ... Unusual variegated variety. White leaf with green markings. White flower with blue tinge. And there were others. The ones called Wintergreen and Iowa (ruffled leaf) listed back in the 50s were also variegated types. Many of these cultivars were never registered. At first they were considered different and there seemed to be no great sale value for them, but as new cultivars developed, certain patterns began to emerge. They became quite popular and in

demand. Hybridizers, too, began to cross using the variegated types for the parentage of many of the new ones that exist on the market today.

Perhaps this true story of Lilian Jarrett can awaken other avenues as to the beginnings of some of our favorite types of African violets that have been developed over the years. One is often amazed at the continuance and survival of a cultivar over a vast number of years and proves itself to be a winner in competition with some of our newer multi-colored variegated types. I never cease to be amazed at their unique beauty in blossom as well as foliage.



Linda Jacobucci is shown holding Queen of Show, Lady Linda, at the Naugatonic AV Show, "Highways, Byways and Violets." Linda also won 1st Runner Up to Queen, Forget Me Not; 2nd Runner Up to Queen, Splendiferous; Purple Rosette, Country Lass, Royal Lady and Splendiferous; 1st Runner Up to Sweepstakes and 1st Runner Up Jr. Queen, Painted Plumage.

Another push is on ...
Help the AVSA
Building Fund
reach its next
all important goal.

Minutes

African Violet Society of America, Inc.

Board of Directors' Meeting

April 10 & 13, 1988

The first session of the Board of Directors' meeting was called to order by President Frances Young at 10:15 a.m. on April 10, 1988 in the Cascade Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency at Reunion, Dallas, Texas. The invocation was given by L. T. Ozio, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. In lieu of a formal roll call, a roster was circulated. Present were Mesdames Young, Boland, Pittman, Riemer, Hayes, Tinari, Jantzen, Merrell, Tobin, Burns, Goldstein, Waguespack, Harp, Warren, Wells, Hall, Chase, Whitaker, Bogin, Hudnall, and Savage; Messr. Bollar, Green, Mackey, Breden, Froboese, Foster, Pittman, Voorhees, Ozio, Jr., and Wilson. A quorum was present.

Nell-Sue Tyson, chairman of the Building Fund, was invited to make an announcement to the Board. She reported that the goal of \$20,000 had been reached by convention with donations received totaling \$21,260.12. A check for \$10,000 was also received from Lizeta Hamilton, for a grand total of \$31,260.12.

The proposed Standing Rules for the meeting were adopted with the addition that voting on substantive motions would be by written ballot. A motion that written ballots be used for substantive motions at all future Board of Directors' meetings was made by Marilyn Goldstein and seconded but lost. Time of recesses were announced. Courtesy seats were extended to the director nominees Ray Dooley, Rita Hilton, Christine Kemmerling, Anna Jean Landgren, and Lynn Lombard. Mesdames Hilton, Landgren, and Lombard were present. Christine Sanders, Professional Registered Parliamentarian, was introduced. The agenda was adopted.

President Young appointed Bob Green (chairman), Meredith Hall and Ralph Breden to approve the minutes of all meetings of the Board at this convention. Anne Jantzen, chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May, 1987, Board of Directors' meeting in Orlando, reported that the committee approved those minutes.

President Young announced that the Executive Board had appointed Anne Tinari and Ralph Breden to the 1988-89 Nominating Committee. The Board of Directors then elected Donna Tobin, Meredith Hall, and Hugh Mackey to fill the remaining positions. The committee was charged to meet and select their own chairman.

Janet Riemer, Secretary, reported on the meeting of the Executive Board in Beaumont, Texas in October, 1987. The following recommendations were proposed and acted upon:

1. "That the Nominating Committee report only to the President." Adopted.

2. "That a motion previously adopted regarding payment for goods and services with a credit card be rescinded and replaced with a motion stipulating a \$10.00 limit plus a service charge." Referred to the Finance Committee.

3. "That for budget reasons, the AVSA library shall be moved to the AVSA office. Duties involved with the loan of materials shall be performed by the existing staff within regular hours." Referred to the Library Committee for further study.

4. "That the draft of the Annual Performance Appraisal Report for the evaluation of all paid employees be adopted. The reports shall be annual and completed by Dec. 31st. They shall be brought to the Salary Committee for review and returned to the locked file at the office for confidentiality. The Office Manager shall evaluate the office staff, the Finance Chairman shall evaluate the Office Manager, the First Vice President shall evaluate the Editor, and the Library Committee Chairman shall evaluate the

Library Assistant." Adopted by general consent.

5. "That the duties of the Courtesy Chairman shall include sending, from the AVSA Board of Directors, a floral remembrance on the serious illness or death of an AVSA officer or past president. Cards to others shall be sent when appropriate." Adopted.

6. "That the annual judging of affiliate yearbooks and newsletters shall be supervised by the Shows & Judges Committee and an appropriate award shall be given in addition to the rosette to each of the four winners." Referred to Shows & Judges, Publications and Awards Committee.

7. "That procedures for the Hall of Fame awards shall be as follows: nominations shall be submitted to the Awards Committee by the members of the Board of Directors by Jan. 1st. A list of nominees shall be sent by the Awards Committee to the Board of Directors for a vote by Feb. 1st and returned to the Awards Committee Chairman no later than Mar. 1st. A simple majority shall determine the winner/winners. The Executive Board shall establish the criteria for this award." An amendment was adopted inserting "with resumes" after "submitted" and "and Awards Committee Chairman" after "Executive Board." The amended motion was adopted.

8. "That future contract/contracts with Publishing Today shall no longer contain the requirement of a letter of credit for \$3500 from the bank." Adopted by general consent.

9. "That Sec. V, pg. 10, #4 of the Policies & Procedures be changed to 'The Treasurer shall send quarterly reports to the Executive Board and the Finance Committee Chairman.'" Adopted.

10. "That the Salary Committee shall be comprised of the First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Treasurer, and Finance Committee Chairman, with the First Vice President serving as chairman. The committee shall have the authority to grant maternity leave on a case-by-case basis." Adopted by general consent.

11. "To rescind the motion made on Nov. 8, 1986, that 'AVSA adopt the new type of jewelry as the official one, to be ordered as required.'" Adopted by general consent.

As there was no objection, the reading of the reports of officers and committee chairmen (which had been submitted and distributed in advance), was dispensed with by general consent.

President Frances Young commented on her report by emphasizing again the importance of communication.

Mary Boland, First Vice President, stated that the Salary Committee would report at the Sunday Board of Directors' meeting.

Janet Riemer, Secretary, moved "to amend the motion made by Anne Jantzen at the May, 1987, Board meeting which stated 'reports from officers and committees shall coincide with the AVSA fiscal year ...' by inserting 'the editor, the office manager' after 'officers'." The motion was adopted by general consent. She also moved "to amend the motion made by Marilyn Goldstein at the 1987 Board meeting that 'all motions made at Board meetings will be sent to individuals/individuals involved in said motion by the Secretary within 45 days of said meeting' by inserting 'adopted' between 'all' and 'motions' and 'not present' after 'individuals/individuals'." The motion was adopted by general consent.

As chairman of the Policies & Procedures Committee, Janet moved "to change #8 under duties of the Commercial Sales & Exhibits Chairman in the Policies & Procedures book (Sec. VII, pg. 12) to recommend a commercial member to serve on the Handbook Committee and one to serve on the Policies & Procedures Committee rather than appoint." The motion was adopted.

As Historian, Janet moved "that the proposed policies and procedures for the archives be adopted." The motion was adopted by general consent.

The auditor's report was adopted. Nancy Hayes, Treasurer, moved "the approval of Wathen, DeShong and Company of Beaumont, Texas as auditors for 1988." The motion was adopted by general consent. She also moved the addition to the Policies & Procedures book (Sec. V, pg. 11, #10) of "Finance Chairman" following "President in office at time of convention." The motion was adopted by general consent.

Donna Tobin, Director, moved "that committee chairmen be consulted before any recommendation affecting said committee can be presented for the consideration of the Board." The motion was adopted. After further discussion, Wynne Voorhees moved to reconsider the previous motion. The motion lost.

Nominating Committee Chairman, Irene Merrell, moved that "the AVSA Board choose the incoming nominating committee at the first Board meeting, this committee to meet the first day following the meeting or as early as possible to encourage personal contact with possible nominees." The motion was adopted by general consent.

Celine Chase, Awards Committee Chairman, moved that "\$2000 be transferred from the Hudson Memorial Award Fund to the Building Fund in memory of Mabel & Glenn Hudson, subject to written approval by their daughter, Jeannette Brown." The motion was adopted by general consent.

Commercial Sales & Exhibits Chairman, J. R. Pittman, moved the "adoption of a revised commercial display score sheet to replace the current one now in the Handbook for Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges, page 81." The motion was adopted by general consent.

DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, moved on behalf of the Convention Committee, that "the Board of Directors accept the invitation of the Northern California African Violet Council to host the 1991 AVSA Convention in Santa Clara at the Double Tree Inn." The motion was adopted. She also moved that "the Board of Directors accept the invitation of Ohio State African Violet Society to host the 1992 AVSA Convention in Columbus, Ohio, in conjunction with the AmeriFlora at the Hyatt Regency Hotel." The motion was adopted.

Marilyn Goldstein, Plant Registration Chairman, proposed the adoption of the following motions:

1. To "rescind the motion [previously adopted] to have the registration report cumulative between issues of the MVL." Adopted by general consent.

2. "That the Plant Registration Committee proofread all material that is going to be published having to do with registered names." Referred to several committees for consultation.

3. To "adopt the new registration form as proposed by the Plant Registration Committee." Adopted by general consent.

4. "That Sec. VII, pg. 33, #6 in Policies & Procedures be deleted, and reservations and registrations shall be accepted year round." Adopted by general consent.

The meeting was recessed at 5:30 PM to reconvene on Wednesday evening.

The second session of the Board of Directors' meeting was called to order by President Frances Young at 8:45 PM on April 13, 1988. The invocation was given by David Buttram. The roster was circulated. Additional members present were Mrs. Tapping, Messr. Buttram and Tinari and director nominee, Mr. Dooley. The parliamentarian, Christine Sanders, PRP, was presented.

Reports were presented by Editor, Jane Birge, and Office Manager, Nancy Lawrence. Questions and answers were exchanged regarding procedures in publishing the African Violet Magazine and in operating the office.

On behalf of the Publications Committee, Bob Green, moved

the following motions:

1. "That Sec. VII, pg. 37, #5 of the Policies & Procedures be changed by striking out 'shall' and inserting 'may.'" Adopted by general consent.

2. "That when the following items of AVSA literature are revised, the Publications Committee shall review them to assist in avoiding conflict between them. The primary responsibility shall remain with the originating committee. a) convention manual, b) culture folder, c) affiliate information, d) guide book for affiliate presidents." Adopted by general consent.

3. "That Sec. VII, pg. 37, #1 in the Policies & Procedures be changed to read, 'Be responsible for publication of AVSA literature which the AVSA Board of Directors shall authorize.'" Adopted by general consent.

4. That the Publications Committee "shall consist of the members selected by the chairman and listed in the directors' handbook. Columnists shall be encouraged to contribute suggestions and recommendations to the Publications Committee but shall not be considered full members." Adopted by general consent.

Marilyn Goldstein moved the following motions:

1. "The Plant Registration Committee be responsible for evaluation of registered cultivars. If the cultivar is not reproducing true, registration may be withdrawn." The motion was lost.

2. "Effective July 1, 1988, new series names will not be accepted on registration of cultivars. Series names prior to the effective date will still be valid." Bob Green moved to amend the previous motion striking out the last sentence and inserting "Series names registered prior to July 1, 1988, will be discontinued for new registrations." The amendment was lost and the original motion was laid on the table.

3. "That all hybridizers applying for registrations include a photo or picture of the cultivar, to be attached to their applications." The motion was lost.

Emilie Savage, Shows & Judges Chairman, moved jointly with Bill Foster, Affiliate Chairman, "an addition to Rule 10 under 'AVSA Rules to be included in Schedules' pg. 43 of the AVSA Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors & Judges. The complete rule will read as follows: 10. Only AVSA members are eligible to enter the AVSA collection classes. Only one collection may be entered by an exhibitor. This will go into effect when printed in the AVM." The motion was adopted by general consent. She also moved to strike out Sec. VII, pg. 42, #2 in the Policies & Procedures and insert the following: "2. Submit to the Treasurer an itemized statement of expenses incurred by the committee." The motion was adopted by general consent.

Irene Merrell, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to add to the duties of the chairman of the Nominating Committee in the Policies & Procedures that "resumes over five (5) years old shall be removed from the committee files each year and destroyed." The motion was adopted by general consent.

As several items of business could not be addressed at this time, they were scheduled for discussion at the meeting of the 1988-89 Board. The Meeting was adjourned at 11 PM.

African Violet Society of America, Inc.

Annual Meeting

April 16, 1988

The annual business meeting of the African Violet Society of America, Inc. was called to order by Third Vice President, Hortense Pittman at 4:15 PM on April 16, 1988, in the Pullman Room of Union Station, adjacent to the Hyatt Regency at Reunion, Dallas, Texas.

The invocation was given by Ken Froboese. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was turned over to President, Frances Young. The Secretary called the roll of the Board of Directors. All were present with the following exceptions: Dorothy Miderski, Margaret Waggespack, Marlene Brown, and

David Buttram. The parliamentarian, Christine Sanders, PRP, was presented.

Anne Jantzen, chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the annual meeting in Orlando in 1987, reported that the minutes were approved.

Nell-Sue Tyson, Resolutions Chairman, read the courtesy resolution and moved that it be adopted. A copy is attached to these minutes. The resolution was adopted.

Janet Riemer, chairman of the Bylaws Committee, reported on the progress of the committee. Amendments to the Bylaws shall be presented for a vote at the Kansas City convention in 1989.

Notification of proposed amended and restated Articles of Incorporation had been sent to the membership and a vote was now taken on this proposal. The amended and restated Articles of Incorporation were adopted by a vote of 140 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee, Irene Merrell, moved the election of the slate as published in the African Violet Magazine: for President, Frances Young; First Vice President, Mary Boland; Second Vice President, Charles Bollar; Third Vice President, Hortense Pittman; Secretary, Janet Riemer; Treasurer, Nancy Hayes; Directors, Ray Dooley, Rita Hilton, Christine Kemmerling, Anna Jean Landgren, and Lynn Lombard. Anne Tinari, Past President, conducted the election. The slate was duly elected. It was announced that the installation would take place at the banquet later in the day.

Esther Edwards Wells, Chairman of the Kansas City Convention in 1989, extended the invitation of her committee to attend the convention next year. A video was shown of the site.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM. The convention was adjourned *sine die* at the conclusion of the banquet.

**African Violet Society of America, Inc.
1988-89 Board of Directors' Meeting
April 17, 1988**

The meeting of the 1988-89 Board of Directors was called to order by President Frances Young at 9:10 AM in the Cascade Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency at Reunion, Dallas, Texas. The invocation was given by Emilie Savage. The parliamentarian, Christine Sanders, PRP, was presented. Circulation of the roster indicated the absence of Marlene Brown.

President, Frances Young, announced the appointment of committee chairmen. New appointments were: Awards Committee, Anne Jantzen. Two special committees were renewed, Affiliate Recommendations and Courtesy. A new special committee was announced. It will be called the Guidebook for AVSA Affiliate Presidents Committee with Bill Foster (chairman), Jack Wilson, and Bob Green serving on it. They were charged with investigating the possibility of revising the out-dated guidebook.

A motion by Marilyn Goldstein that "all votes on substantive motions be by written ballot" was adopted.

Mary Boland, chairman of the Salary Committee, made the following motions:

1. "To add the following to Section IV, pg. 5, #5: New Year's Eve - 1/2 day and Christmas Eve Day." Adopted by general consent.

2. "All requests for information and assistance directed to the Office Manager shall be cleared by the following: a) Vice president responsible for the requesting committee chairperson, b) President for all directors." Adopted.

3. "To adopt the recommendations of the Salary Committee for 1988-89." Adopted.

Bob Green, chairman of the Publications Committee, moved "that the agreement between AVSA and Becker Printing Co. shall be renewed for one year and that the agreement between AVSA and Publishing Today be extended to coincide with the printer's agreement." The motion was adopted by general con-

sent.

Wynne Voorhees, on behalf of the Finance Committee, reported on the motions referred to that committee regarding credit cards. He moved "that Visa and MasterCard be accepted in payment of all AVSA sale items and for convention registration. Credit cards shall not be accepted in payment of membership dues or of advertising in the AVM." The motion was adopted by general consent. He also made the following motions:

1. "That AVSA Policies & Procedures be amended as follows: To Sec. III, pg. 1, add a new paragraph entitled 'Investment of Surplus Cash Balances.' AVSA monies in excess of the anticipated requirements of the current fiscal year and the principal balances of restricted funds shall be deposited in federally insured financial institutions or invested in obligations of the United States Treasury, or agencies of the government of the United States. The timing and maturity of such investments to be determined by the Finance Committee with the approval of the Executive Board. The intent of this motion should be added to the duties of the Finance Committee and references to 'special savings accounts' in other sections of the Policies & Procedures manual should be changed accordingly and this information should be included in all other appropriate places in the manual." Adopted.

2. "That three 16-page pull-out supplements be added to the AVM during the calendar year beginning with the current date. The editor shall report to the Board of Directors at the Kansas City convention on the effectiveness of these supplements in increasing member satisfaction. At that time the Board of Directors shall determine whether these pull-out supplements should be continued." Adopted by general consent.

3. "That the Office Manager investigate the potential savings available from weatherproofing the AVSA office, and that the office manager be empowered to spend up to \$500 for such weatherproofing, if in the opinion of the Finance Committee such an investment is economically justified." Adopted.

4. "That the Finance Committee be empowered to investigate new items to be sold by the AVSA office, and to add such items to our product line on a trial basis where analysis indicates that these items are viable sources of revenue." Adopted.

5. "That the Finance Committee be empowered to investigate alternative sources or products for long distance telephone services, and to secure such services if economically justified." Adopted by general consent.

Emilie Savage moved that "the African Violet Society of America permit La Societe de Violettes Africaines du Grand Montreal, Enrg. of Montreal, Quebec, Canada to translate the African Violet Society Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors and Judges into the French language for the sole purpose of and use by AVSA members, judges, teachers, and/or judging schools, provided all copyrights are protected and no profit from the sale or distribution of these handbooks shall accrue to any person or organization other than AVSA." A motion was made to amend this motion by adding "provided that no AVSA funds shall be expended for the cost of this translation and publication and provided that the society's attorney draw up appropriate documents protecting the society's rights and interests in this translation." The amendment and the amended motion were adopted.

A motion was made by Bob Green and seconded "that the Publications Committee Chairman and the AVSA Office Manager be empowered to investigate the copyright status of all extant AVSA publications. If said publications are not copyrighted, the Office Manager shall proceed with copyrighting the publications immediately." Adopted by general consent.

L. T. Ocio, Jr., chairman of the Library Committee, brought back to the Board the motion referred to that committee regarding the relocation of the AVSA library. The original motion was

adopted. He then moved on behalf of the Library Committee:

1) "That requests for the loan of library materials on or after September 15, 1988, be sent to the AVSA office." Adopted by general consent.

2) "That notification of the effective date shall be published in the AV magazine as soon as possible." Adopted by general consent.

3) "That Sec. IV, pg. 8 and Sec. VII, pgs 22-24 of the Policies & Procedures Manual shall be changed and the responsibilities of the Library Assistant shall be moved to Sec. IV, pg. 4." Adopted by general consent.

Bob Green, chairman of the Publications Committee, brought back to the Board the motion referred to the Shows & Judges Committee, Publications Committee and Awards Committee regarding the annual judging of affiliate yearbooks and newsletters. The original motion was adopted by general consent.

On behalf of the Building Fund Committee, Janet Riemer moved "that a citation of appreciation be prepared and presented to Lizeta Hamilton by the Secretary, to show our gratitude for her generous donation to the Building Fund. Expense for the citation shall be donated." The motion was adopted by general consent.

Anne Jantzen moved and it was seconded to amend the motion previously adopted regarding the notification of committee chairman by striking out "consulted" and inserting "informed" so that the action would read: "that committee chairmen be informed before recommendations affecting said committee can be presented for the consideration of the Board." The motion was adopted by general consent.

Bill Foster moved in conjunction with the Shows & Judges Committee, "that the Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges be changed on page 83, (AVSA Standard Show Award Point Score Sheet) #1A, second part, to read 6 points if number of exhibits is 4 times council, state, or regional membership in attendance and under second part of B. 4 points if 25% of registered members attending council, state or regional groups with over 100 members exhibits." The motion was adopted by general consent.

DoDe Whitaker, on behalf of the Convention Committee, made the following motions:

1) "That the Convention Manual be presented for approval to the Convention Committee August 1, 1988; to the Publications Committee August 15, 1988; [and] to the Executive Board September 1, 1988." Adopted by general consent.

2) "That AVSA shall assume all responsibility for financial liabilities and assets for future AVSA conventions, effective upon approval of the revised convention manual with its incorporated financial guidelines." Adopted.

3) "That AVSA shall advance the \$1,000 petty cash money upon acceptance of an invitation to host an AVSA convention. If said invitation is withdrawn, full reimbursement of advanced petty cash money shall be returned to AVSA by the hosting group." Adopted.

4) "That AVSA shall assume all responsibilities for financial liabilities and assets for the Kansas City convention." Adopted.

5) "That for the 1988 AVSA convention, AVSA shall share equally with the hosting group any profits realized." Adopted.

6) "That the AVSA Treasurer shall open an AVSA convention account for all convention financial transactions. The initial deposit to this AVSA convention account shall be \$5,000. Effective authorized signatures on this account shall be: Treasurer, President, First Vice President." Adopted.

7) "That the 1989 AVSA Kansas City convention be scheduled for Tuesday - Sunday, the Board of Directors' meetings being held on Tuesday, Wednesday night and Sunday, providing the property under contract will accept these changes without changing the sleeping room rate." Adopted.

Bob Green moved and it was seconded "to amend a motion

previously adopted that in AVSA convention shows the total number of entries per exhibitor in the Design Division shall be six (6)." An amendment was moved by Marie Burns and seconded, "excluding container gardens." Another amendment was moved by Ray Dooley and seconded "that container gardens shall be unlimited and reservations shall be required." Both amendments and the amended motion were adopted by general consent.

On behalf of the Building Fund Committee, Janet Riemer moved "that the next goal shall be \$60,000." The motion was adopted.

Jack Wilson, on behalf of the Membership & Promotion Committee, moved "that the Policies & Procedures manual be changed so that AVSA culture folders be provided to both affiliates and commercials at no cost. Annual free culture folders to be limited to 5,000 per year. All additional culture folders to be sold at cost. Postage to be paid by receiving affiliate/commercial. A rebate of one dollar shall be paid to affiliates/commercials for each new membership received. Rebates to be paid after sixth membership attained." The motion was adopted by general consent.

Frank Tinari, chairman of the Research Committee, moved "that a grant of \$2,500 be granted to the University of Florida for research on African violets on water quality. The research [shall] be conducted at Gainesville, Florida, under the direction of T. J. Sheehan." The motion was adopted.

Marilyn Goldstein, chairman of the Plant Registration Committee, brought back to the Board the motion referred to several committees regarding proofreading information of registered names. She moved to withdraw the original motion and substitute it with a motion "that the Plant Registration Committee be responsible to assure that descriptions of registered cultivars in the Miniature & Semiminiature List, MVL and supplements, awards, Tally Time and Best Varieties and Honor Roll that will be published by AVSA, agree with the application information in the registration files." The motion was adopted by general consent.

On behalf of the Plant Registration Committee, Marilyn also moved "that parentage be required on all cultivars to be registered, effective Dec. 1, 1988." The motion was adopted.

Ellie Bogin, chairman of the Miniature and Semiminiature Cultivars Committee, moved "that the miniature and semiminiature supplement be published and available from the AVSA office in January at the price of \$1.00 postpaid." An amendment was made to strike out "January" and insert "November." The amendment was adopted and the amended motion was adopted by general consent.

Wynne Voorhees, chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the revised budget and moved its adoption. The budget was adopted by general consent. He also moved and it was seconded "that any motion which affects a budget item must include an estimate of the anticipated impact on the budget. The next printing of motion forms shall indicate budgetary impact." An amendment was made to add "and a line listing other committees affected." The amendment and the amended motion were adopted by general consent.

On behalf of the Policies & Procedures Committee, Janet Riemer moved "that each committee chairman shall write an enumerated description of his/her responsibilities and duties to be kept with the records of the committee for use by a substitute in an emergency situation. A copy shall be kept in the office." The motion was adopted by general consent.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Janet Riemer, Secretary
Committee to Approve Minutes:
Bob Green, Chairman, Meredith Hall, Ralph Breden

Contrast in Container Gardens

Shirley R. Jeffrey
1918 Williamsburg Row
Denton, TX 76201

Exhibits in the container classes of an African violet show are expected to demonstrate the use of principles and elements of design. Principles are used to organize the design elements. Contrast, one of the principles, emphasizes differences. As a principle, it makes use of opposite effects such as combining the dissimilar and unlike in an orderly manner by design and not by happenstance. Without some diversity all designs would readily fall to monotony. It is an essential ingredient to achieving variety in our artistic expression.

To achieve contrast, elements which are related, yet having dissimilar qualities, are combined to express differences. Contrast may be accomplished only with those elements which relate. For instance, long and short are related by dimension, light and dark are related by color, and dull and glossy by texture. Contrast is important because whether it is size, form, color, or texture, it affects the design in other ways. The variety that stimulates interest also makes distinctions in space, form, pattern and so forth.

Container gardens make use of a well-designed plan incorporating its components in close proximity. The landscape plan receives the greatest value when exhibits are judged. Part of the plan should include contrast between the parts. All materials need not be in contrast. Neither is it desirable in keeping with a unified design. However, to create variety it must be a part of all designs.

The emphasizing of differences between some of the selected components is a means by which contrast is accomplished. Some differences which may be effective especially are: form, texture, size, and color.

Form is an element of design. Basically form is shape, the shape of the whole or the shape of any of the parts in a container garden. Contrast of forms may be produced when the designer is able to use shapes in combination. Suppose, for the moment, an imaginary line is drawn down the center of a large rectangular or oval tray. There is a right side form

and a left side form. The shape on the left side may be triangular, and the shape on the right side circular. Tall plants are used for the height of the triangle, with smaller ones beneath, whereas densely, low growing plants may give a circular form. Each one is a complete plan on its own, yet belonging to the overall or whole of the form in the landscape. Plant shapes such as rosette, helix, and cone, as well as the contour of the parts of flowers and leaves, are forms which may be selected to vary to emphasize differing forms. The possibilities are not only as it exists naturally in each plant, but form that is the creative result of careful pruning. It can easily be seen that a combination of forms may be used very effectively to bring about striking contrasts.

Texture is another design element. It is the surface finish, and may be dull, shiny, rough, or smooth. There is a visual surface quality to all materials in a design. The texture of containers, just as dish garden bases, rocks, and figurines, must be considered in a design plan. Surface qualities may be combined so that opposites such as the dullness of wood bark and the shininess of a rock, while in contrast, compliment each other. A pebbly leafed plant used with a smooth surfaced plant may be effective though diverse. Emphasizing the surface differences is another means of demonstrating variety in a container garden design.

Size is an element which may be a means of creating contrast. It is the visual size that we are interested in and not the *actual* measurements of a plant material. We express size in terms of small or large, and heavy or light. Tall plants in the right back side of a terrarium would be in contrast to small plants growing at the left front side. All too often exhibitors are penalized for exhibits in which tall plants are lined across the back in near or similar size. Such designs lack "size contrast." The varying of the size of plants and their placement may enhance an exhibit remarkably.

Closely aligned with size is the principle of scale, which in actuality is "size relationship," the relation-

ship occurring between objects. In container gardens the relationship may be between the individual blossoms, such as a bud, a young blossom, and a mature one, or the relationship may be between the plants and the container. For instance, heavy line material or an over-powering container would be out of scale.

A container garden which has size components in contrast such as only tall trees and low growing hedges will be out of scale. A unification between the extreme sizes must be created by relating them. Medium size plants help bring such designs into scale.

The size of materials is an important consideration in their selection. Plantings call for variety in size as well as shape to create interest in the design. Students of the Japanese arts soon learn the triangular relationship of objects in the heaven, man, earth concept. When applied to container gardens, it could be said that the taller plants represent heaven, the intermediate or supporting, man and the low growing or ground covers, earth. This concept demonstrates that the size of components is very relevant to the total effect of a design, not only in contrast, but balance, form, and rhythm as well.

Soil as well as plants may be varied in highs and lows. The gradation of soil is effective in conveying the appearance of valleys and peaks. In terrarium planting, another level of progression may be implemented by the use of a split level. If the container is large, a low level may have a high and low side to the soil, the upper level making use of the same with a wall connecting the two levels. Contrast of plant materials is important in such plantings. The taller plants will be placed on the lowest level for greater stability and balance. The lighter and low growing are more suitable for the upper level. Creeping plants such as miniature ivys add further variation as they connect the two levels by a wall. The laying of the soil in variance is essential if a container garden is to variety and contrast.

The size of foliages and blossoms may vary as well as the plants themselves. As we have seen from the proceeding, size is a dominant factor. More interest is created when plants are differentiated by size. If more than one blooming plant is used, greater interest will be achieved by varying the sizes.

Color is very basic to the composition of a good design and an effective element to vary to achieve contrast. Nature has bestowed such a wide range of colors. Choosing between them may be difficult. For

not a few exhibitors there is a nebulous line between contrast of color and conflict of color. It goes without saying that information regarding the use of color is not readily available to a good many who wish to do container gardens for exhibition. Whatever the mood of the design, compatibility is essential and not to be abandoned to the wish for greater variety. Compatibility of colors includes all materials: plants, containers, rocks, bark, and miniature figurines. The light and dark shades of foliage must be considered in the color plan, as well as the ground covers and blooming plants.

The great variety of gesneriad plant forms, foliage, blossom shapes, colors, and sizes given unlimited opportunity to create contrast.

In African violet shows, African violets are to be featured. If other flowering plants are used they must be well coordinated so no distraction nor confusion arises as to the center of interest. Two colors which are not carefully chosen may compete and disperse a focal point and compromise harmony.

Beautiful container gardens do not happen per chance; they are well-planned with the adherence to the principles and elements of design. The unplanned combining of incompatible materials results in disharmony and a lack of unity. Whereas the good use of contrast in a design plan helps determine the overall effects. Designing container gardens suitable to one's expectations is not difficult. It may be acquired through practice. Emphasize the beauty of differences by planning more contrast in your design plans.



Betty Hill of San Diego, CA is growing this plant of Interlude. The largest bloom is three inches across and the plant was grown on the sunniest spot on her shelf.



Silverado

Granger Gardens

Fantasy Sunset



Why Not a Survey?

Dolores Larsen
10503 SE 232nd St.
Kent, WA 98031

Members of the Seattle African Violet Society are scattered over a large geographic area. Our interest in African violets brings us together, but it is difficult to find time at our meetings to discuss our violet growing on a really personal level. This, plus my curiosity, is what prompted the idea of a survey. A questionnaire was distributed which, I hoped, might even give us some input for future programs or educational needs of our members.

The resulting report which was published in the May issue of our newsletter, "Blossoms," surprised not only our members, but myself as well. Favorable reactions from our members included a suggestion that this would be of interest to AVSA members. I had expected to report rather briefly with a few comments, but the response inspired me to do more,

for, as you can see, the article was anything but brief and it was well-flavored with comments about AVSA. So, here it is — our questionnaire and the "Survey Results."

Survey of Seattle African Violet Society Members

We'd like to know your "African Violet Habits." Please help by completing the following questionnaire. Bring it to our next meeting or mail it to: D. Larsen, 10503 S.E. 232nd St., Kent, WA 98031. Statistical results will be published as soon as they can be compiled. We would really like 100% participation. A free leaf can be chosen (by you or your proxy) at one of our later meetings for all of you who participate. Mark one or more boxes as appropriate, and please give year where requested. Additional comments will be appreciated.

1. I have grown African violets with more than casual interest
 less than 5 years less than 10 years over 10 years, since _____
2. The number of different varieties I have is
 less than 12 less than 50 less than 100 over 100
3. My collection consists of
 standard miniature or semimini trailers gesneriads other than African violets
4. In my African violet collection I have one or more
 species Original 10 1963 or prior unidentified
5. I grow most of my plants
 under artificial light in natural light
6. I water my plants
 from the top from the bottom with wicks with matting
7. Fertilizer used is
 same each time, all plants lower in nitrogen for variegates alternate different brands/food values occasional foliar feeding
8. My soil is
 a purchased mix mix plus extra ingredients my own formula
9. I use insecticides (any type)
 consistently in a preventive program occasionally seldom or never
10. I keep records of my cultivars showing
 when purchased where purchased hybridizer's name registration # if any
 description none kept
11. I have (now or in the past) grown seedlings
 from seed I hybridized hybridized by another started by another
12. I have Master Variety List
 #1 #2 #3 #4 _____
13. I have Judges & Exhibitors Handbook
 printed in 1986 previous edition(s)

14. I usually enter in SAVS show

African violet(s) Other gesneriad(s) Design/Artistic section Hobby & Handi crafts

15. I am a member of

SAVS since _____ AVSA since _____ PSGS since _____ SI since _____ GSI since _____

My name is:

PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS

"Survey Results"

We received 42 responses to our survey questionnaire — one was from a "Blossoms" subscriber who is, after all, a near-member. For purposes of this survey I am considering family or dual memberships as one member even though there may be more than one actual member. In the following report any % figure will be based only on the 42 replies, i.e., 42 "yes" answers would be 100% "yes" answers.

1. 24% have grown violets with more than casual interest less than 5 years, 21% less than 10 years and 55% over 10 years. Earliest growers were one since 1935 or '40, one since '46 and once since 1950. Six others had grown for a long time but couldn't remember the year.

2. 12% have less than 12 different varieties, 40% have less than 50, 14% have less than 100 and 31% over 100. One had no response to this question and several mentioned that they had had more in previous years.

3. Of what do our member's collections consist? This question was broken down into 4 types: standards, minis/semininis, trailers and other gesneriads. 50% grow all 4 types, 7% grow all but trailers, 2% grow only standards and other gesneriads, 7% all but standards, 19% all but other gesneriads, 2% grow only standards and trailers, 7% standards and minis/semininis and 5% only standards. Note that the last of these 4 categories grow no gesneriads other than AV (33%).

4. The meaning of this question was not fully understood by some so my answer has been expanded. Over 20 species of the genus *Saintpaulia* have been discovered. Probably the one most widely recognized is *Saintpaulia ionantha*. In 22 of these 42 homes you can find one or more of the species, plants as they grew in the wild without alterations by man. A species plant can be self-pollinated and it will come true from seed.

The species plants were hybridized and led to named cultivars. Among the first are those known as the "Original 10," released by Armacost & Royston. These 10 cultivars were Blue Boy, Sailor Boy, Admiral, Amethyst, Viking, Mermaid, Norseman,

Neptune, Commodore and No. 32. One or more of these can be found in five of the homes.

In 15 of these member's homes you will find one or more of these "golden oldies." You may be interested to know that some of these older cultivars still grown in our area are: Double Black Cherry, Lilian Jarrett, Richter's Stained Glass, Silver Crest, Sparkling Waters, Granger Garden's Angel Lace, Delft Imperial, White Madonna, Lady Loretta, Chenille, Richter's Charm Song, Wedgewood, Brussels Sprouts, Frosted Madonna, White Pride and Blue Girl. There may be others — why not let me know?

Of course the "unidentified" needs no explanation. Labels have been lost or it had no name when it was acquired, but you can't part with it because of sentimental reasons or because it is so pretty, etc., etc. These unnamed orphans still have a place in 13 of the homes.

Further breakdown is as follows: 10% have one or more species, Original 10 and "Golden Oldie" but have no unidentified; 12% have orphans; 10% have one or more from 1963 or prior; 5% have at least one oldie and one orphan; 12% have both one or more species and unidentified; 19% have one or more species; 10% species or golden oldie; 2% have all four types and 21% have none of the four groups.

5. 74% of the respondents use artificial light; 17% use natural light, one did not answer the question. 10% use both artificial and natural light but half of these specified "few" or "some" in natural light.

6. 48% water from the top; 5% from the bottom (one specifically mentioned "Texas Pots"); 17% watered from both top & bottom; 4% from top & with matting; 7% from top and with wicks; 10% with wicks & matting; 5% with wicks; 2% from top, bottom, with wicks & matting and 2% from top, with wicks & matting.

7. 76% alternate fertilizers (one mentioned using "whatever is handy since the decrease in the collection); 24% use same fertilizer all the time. 14% of these two groups use less nitrogen for variegates and 10% used an occasional foliar feeding. One checked for the use of foliar feeding but no other system of



Ness's Ballyhoo Blue

Midland Violets - Don Ness

Ness's Blue Babe



fertilization was given.

8. 48% use a purchased mix plus other ingredients; 26% use a purchased mix and 26% use their own formula. (Purchased mix is from any source including that purchased from SAVS.)

9. 17% use some type of insecticide on a regular basis as a preventative measure; 52% use it on occasion and 31% use it seldom or never. (A few emphasized "never.")

10. There were several comments included in the replies to this question. One mentioned not having time for records and a couple wanted more information on "how-to."

The answers revealed that 52% keep no records, 2% keep records haphazardly, 2% keep descriptions on some and 43% keep records as follows: 3 keep description only; one keeps description and culture notes; one records when obtained; one keeps where obtained & description; two keep when & where obtained, hybridizer and description; 2 record the hybridizer, description & registration #; 4 can tell you when & where obtained, hybridizer, registration # and description; 2 know the hybridizer; 1 keeps hybridizer & description and 1 knows when & where obtained and the hybridizer.

11. 38% have not grown from seeds or seedlings but 26% have hybridized and grown their own seedlings; 40% have grown from seed hybridized by another and 26% have grown seedlings started by some one else. (Some of those have done two or more of these.)

12. 45% have no Master Variety Lists, 55% have one or more as follows: 5 have all four; 2 have #2; 1 has #2 & 3; 2 have #2, 3 & 4; 1 has #3; 5 have #3 & 4 and 7 have #4.

By the way, if anyone out there has MVL #1, or if you know of anyone who has one, please let me know if it is available for purchase. I would like to complete my collection and there may be others who would like to complete my collection and there may be others who would like one — these are much in demand because they have been out of print for some years now.

13. Do you have Judges & Exhibitor's Handbook printed in 1986 or previous editions? 64% of our respondents had neither, 14% had the 1986 issue and 21% had a previous edition.

14. Twelve of our members in this survey do not usually enter in our shows. The rest put their show priorities as follows: 15 entered AVs; 1 entered AVs, other gesneriads & hobby/handicrafts; 1 entered AVs, design & artistic and hobby & handicrafts; 3 entered AVs & hobby/handicrafts; 4 entered AVs and other gesneriads; 1 entered AVs, other gesneri-

ads & design/artistic and 1 entered only design/artistic.

15. This was the memberships in the various gesneriad societies. Of course, since this was an SAVS survey, the replies were all members (except the one previously mentioned as a subscriber and near-member). How long? Earliest years listed were 1955, 1958 and 1959. Thirteen also belong to Puget Sound Gesneriad Society, three of them since it was formed. Twelve belong to Saintpaulia International, one stated "from the beginning" and one other was charter member. Earliest years were stated as 1963 and 1969. Fifteen belong to Gesneriad Saintpaulia International, two were long time members who couldn't remember the year, one listed 1970 and another 1976. One added American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society and I am very sorry this was omitted from the questionnaire. I had meant to include it, but ... Twenty of the 42 belong to AVSA (earliest since 1960 and 1963). One or two did mention past membership.

If you have any questions, comments or criticisms — you know how to reach me. I promised a leaf to all of you who participated. There was one other member's response just received so it didn't get counted but there was a reasonable excuse plus an apology for being late, so a leaf is ready for you, too, (or your proxy). Though you didn't get counted in the totals, everyone should know that you have over 100 different varieties, grow all four types in your collection, keep good records, possess MVL #3 and 4 and are also a member of AVSA and GSI. I will have your leaves at this coming meeting so you can all choose your leaf or arrange to have it chosen for you if you can't be there yourself. Thanks — it was interesting.

Attention: Affiliates

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See details on the

inside cover page - Strictly Business -
Your Business.

The Supermarket Violet

or

How To Change Your Life

Valerie A. Fontanesi

R. R. 1, Box 3440

Stowe, Vermont 05672

Buying an African violet is dangerous! It unsettles homes, causes economic set-backs and requires family members to change quite a few habits. However, I am only discovering this in hindsight. Moving to Vermont really showed me just how much one variety of plant can change a person's life.

I bought my first violet in a supermarket, clay pot and all. I promptly put it on a windowsill in our home in Florida where it flourished, completely neglected. Beginner's luck. Then, one unfortunate day I read somewhere about starting new violets from leaves. Do I need to go on any further? Soon my lone violet was joined by six or seven new friends and, being stupid creatures, they also thrived, not knowing the neglect that was being heaped upon their crowns. When the time came for our move to Vermont I traded my violets with a friend for an airline pet carrying case and really thought I had made the best of the deal. Pride goeth before the fall.

You might think of Vermont as the Green Mountain State but I can tell you from experience that it is the Sahara Desert of violets. Finding anything that even resembled a violet in the middle of March in Vermont is a fool's errand. Come spring I found a small terrarium for sale that claimed to have African violet seeds in it ready to instantly start growing. I never saw a violet in that terrarium, although I followed the instructions to the letter, but the true crop was an application to the AVSA.

My first publication arrived and totally upset me and my family's routine. I carefully read all of the articles and was completely mystified. What in the world could a thrips be? What was a petiole? And suckers? Could anything as beautiful as an African violet have such deadly things as blood suckers? This was obviously technical stuff that required a trip to the library for more explanation, on a beginner's level. Dinner times came and went with my nose buried in horticultural books, but, pretty soon my AV Magazine began to sound like English

instead of Greek.

Although the ads in the back were sending out tempting tentacles, I restrained myself until I had three publications and the information therein under my belt. And then it happened. Confidence was born and I jumped in with both feet. Leaves started arriving and impatience for the babies almost made me impossible to be around. (Notice, I said almost.) And then the grand day arrived and I potted up approximately 50 baby plants. And that's when our lives changed.

Where do you put 50 pots? Naturally, a plant stand was required with lights. My husband good-naturedly built one for me, little knowing that it was the first of many. Of course, a humidifier followed since there is not one drop of moisture in any home during the winter months of New England. That was followed by a fan, timers, the collection of gallon milk jugs, etc. Through all of this I received indulgent smiles of encouragement from my husband, the eternal optimist.

I suppose you could say that the straw that broke the camel's back was a book. Pauline Bartholomew's to be exact. Everything had to be repotted in the Texas manner. The light stand was not to the proper specifications. No longer could anyone simply walk in the back door — for fear of icy blasts. Actually that turned into a moot point since there was no longer any room to walk in ... plant stands, don't you know. Something had to give and for a while there I thought it was going to have to be me. The eternal optimist to the rescue.

The basement is now heated, at a rather hefty cost. My husband went into action and plant stands sprung up like weeds. The man at the hardware store can't quite figure out what we are doing with all of those fluorescent fixtures, but, in the true New England spirit, never has asked. The UPS man and I reached a first name basis as supplies and more supplies were delivered. However, every dog has his

day, and mine came with the realization that this was turning into a VERY expensive hobby.

Of course, any violet lover reading this knows what happened next ...

Big Business!

Yes, I started selling them and absolutely puffed

up with pride when my first shipment to a local garden center all sold in three days. Laundry piled up, floors turned gritty with dropping perlite and over everything clung the distinctive aroma of warm, moist peatmoss.

But oh, the glory of the violets!

Microminiatures - At Last, the Answer to Crissey

Kathy Stickney

Oak Ridge Road, R.R. 2 Box 217

West Lebanon, NH 03784

When I began seriously growing African violets, my husband and I set up a basement plant room for the violets on their carts. There was a screen door to the room that allowed air to circulate but kept the cats out.

It all worked fine until we realized we were not really enjoying the violets. To be sure, I tried to use the violets when possible. For example, the prettiest one would always grace our dinner table and I would decorate with them for dinner parties, but that was not enough.

My husband suggested we bring one of the four-shelved carts out of the basement and into the second floor study. We were thrilled to have the violets among us and soon the second cart was moved up into our dining room. What a joy to eat dinner with an entire cart of violets adding beauty to the room.

The joy was soon tempered with problems. For instance, I was concerned with spraying the violets with insecticide in regular living areas of the house and decided I never would.

The real problem though was our calico cat, Crissey. Crissey had spent hours in the basement with her nose pressed to the screen door, dying to get at those violets. Now she could not believe her good fortune. Munch, munch, munch — how she enjoyed those violet leaves! She at least confined her eating activities to the violets on the bottom shelf of each cart, but that was not all that comforting. I frantically began reading about how to deal with a cat who ate plants.

I tried rapping her on the nose with one finger as I loudly pronounced "No!" She only blinked as she continued chewing. I pushed her away as I yelled "No!" She only came right back. I sprayed her with

water as I screamed "No!" Dripping with water, she kept chewing, but looked at me with a pitiful face that said, "Why are you doing this to me?"

One article suggested moistening the leaves with warm water and grinding peppercorns on them. She only purred as she ate these more tasty leaves. Another article suggested moistening the leaves with warm water and sprinkling ground ginger on them. She only purred louder as she ate these even more tasty leaves. Next I tried a combination of both the peppercorns and ground ginger on the leaves. The plants certainly looked funny, but Crissey thought they were a gourmet's delight.

Finally, I grew kitty greens for her to eat. When I grew them in a pot on the cart, she would go back and forth between the greens and the violets, appreciating a varied snack. When I grew them in a pot on the kitchen window sill, she ran back and forth from the cart to the window sill, appreciating a varied snack with exercise in between to promote a better appetite.

I gave up!

I emptied the bottom shelf of one cart and turned off its lights. I grew my leaves and plantlets on the bottom shelf of the second cart inside plastic greenhouses Crissey could not open.

Oddly enough the solution to my problem came in an unsuspecting way. I fell in love with microminiatures the first time I saw them and was excited to try growing them.

One basic problem troubled me and that was that they dried out quickly in their tiny pots and needed daily watering. I may pamper my violets, but daily watering is asking too much.

Capillary matting just did not work for me either.

The first two days after the matting was wet were fine for the microminiatures but they dried out the last three days and had to be hand watered. (I was pouring the food/water solution on the matting every five days, which perfectly suited the miniatures and semiminiatures.) It was tempting to pot the microminis into 2-1/2" pots as I knew others were doing, but would they continue to be microminis?

The solution to my problem finally came by growing them in round plastic terrariums.

The terrariums have a circular section in the very bottom which I fill with charcoal. Next I fill it 3/4 full with my soilless potting mixture that has extra amounts of perlite, vermiculite and charcoal added.

The microminis are potted in their tiny pots and positioned up to the lower part of their rim in the mixture in the terrarium. The mixture is then thoroughly moistened and extra mixture added if it packs down too much.

Finally, sphagnum moss is added to cover the soilless mixture up to the top part of the rims of the micromini pots. It is then sprayed with warm water until thoroughly soaked.

It is easy to position the moist moss in an attractive fashion. With a tissue, I blot the leaves of the microminis that got wet in the spraying.

I then place the cover on the terrarium and place it under the lights on my cart. The lights are lower than they are for my miniatures and semiminiatures. In this environment, I only feed/water the microminis once a week.

The moss gets resprayed every three weeks. I find that four microminis nicely spaced apart are perfect for the 12" terrarium. At first I tried five plants but they seemed crowded once they grew to maturity.

There are endless possibilities for color design. For example, the four plants could either all be the same plant or four different plants with the same blossom color. They could be four different plants with four different blossom colors. The fun comes with making each terrarium unique.

The microminis do thrive under this environment and in three months need to be pulled out of the terrarium. I use the word pulled, as the roots wander out of the bottom of the pots. I tear off these "outside roots" and knock the plant out of its pot.

Next I cut the rootball in half and remove three to four rows of the leaves. The plant is then repotted, well watered, and placed back in the terrarium. Any moss that has turned green is replaced at this time

and then sprayed with warm water. The terrarium is then ready for the plant shelf again.

Now for the best part of all. These terrariums can sit on the bottom shelves of my plant carts and Crissey can't get to the plants. She pushes the terrariums around with her nose but walks away frustrated because she can't get inside to munch the plants. At last, the answer to Crissey.



Peggy Noles of the Central Florida AVS is pictured with her Best AVSA Collection, Wonderland, Snow Rose and Autumn Honey.

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DELICIOUS: Light pink double blossom. Foliage is dark green, serrated, with heavy pink and cream variegation.

DREAM MAKER: Purple and white variable slightly ruffled single blossom. Foliage is medium green, serrated and slightly wavy, medium green, lightly variegated with cream edges.

GUYTANO: Dark blue double star blossom. Foliage is tailored dark green with light green, ivory and pink variegation.

MANY: Blue and white blossom. Foliage is very slightly wavy and serrated, deep green, well variegated with lighter green and white.

ALSO AVAILABLE: All 1988 varieties described in January and May ads in this magazine. We also have a good selection of gesneriads well grown under lights. To order from this ad, send \$3.75 per plant, shipping included. Minimum order: 5 plants, or send 50¢ for complete descriptive list. Shipping April 1 to November 1.

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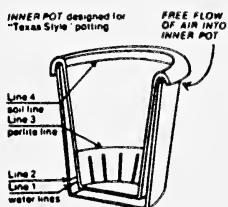
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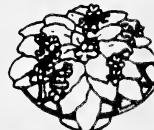
WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS FOR VIOLET SUPPORT RINGS AND OYAMA PLANTERS

OYAMA 'TEXAS STYLE' PLANTERS®



1. Little or no watering skill required.
2. High quality, shatter proof plastic with textured finish.
3. Approved for shows by African Violet Society

*Give Your Violets A Lift
With
Elisa's African Violet Rings*



1. Keeps leaves from getting cut on pot edges.
2. Plants cannot hug pot.
3. Show plants are easier to train.



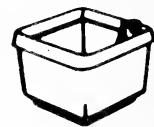
PLASTIC RESERVOIRS
available for the
Miniaturizing Mini Pot

BUSINESSES AND CLUBS SEND FOR WHOLESALE PRICE LIST.

MASTERCARD and VISA accepted

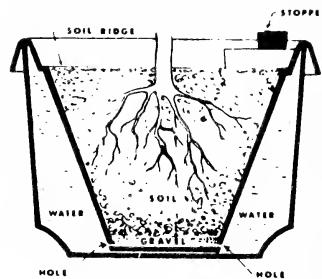
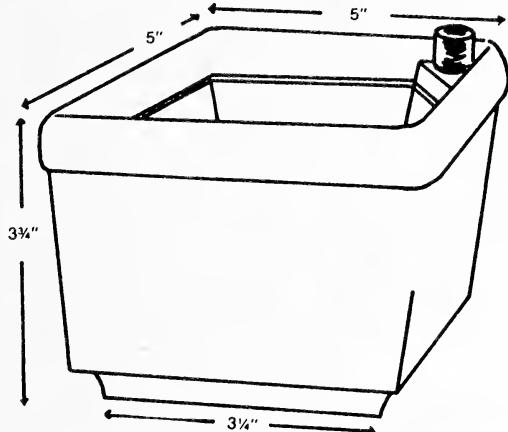
Retail List Available

The House of Violets



We are factory representative for SWIFT "MOIST-RITE" PLANTER, a self-watering flower pot. An automatic system designed to properly moisten soil. Made for African Violets and other plants.

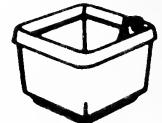
ATTENTION: Do you sell African Violets and supplies? Send business card or letterhead requesting wholesale and distributor prices.



Better Plants — Less Care! The Self-Watering Planter Designed
for African Violets and Other Plants.

Large water storage allows long intervals between refills,
(sometimes several weeks — depending on plant.)
Small outlet holes near inside bottom edge allow plant to draw moisture as required.

The House of Violets



Charlyne and Ralph Reed
936-940 Garland St., SW, Dept. 988
Camden, Arkansas 71701
Phone (501) 836-3016

Please send us _____
(How many)

(Circle color desired)
GREEN WHITE BLACK

Name _____

Single Planter \$ 4.25

Address _____

Carton of 6 20.00

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Carton of 12 35.95

Carton of 24 61.00

(Price includes postage and handling)

COLOR WHEEL VIOLETS

"Too Many Darn Plants" Sale

#1 Five Episcias (varieties of our choice) \$10.00
These are well established plants - not cuttings - and we welcome your suggestions!

#2 Gesneriad Starter Collection - \$15.00

Includes 1 each - Miniature Sinningia, Nematanthus, Aeschranthus, Columnea cutting, Kohleria cutting, Streptocarpus and 2 Episcias.

#3 Kilauea, Roulette, Yasuyo, Moonbeam - \$12.50 each

Postage \$4.50 ea. offer for 2nd Day Air • List - \$1 refunded w/order
10060 Panay Way Crt.
Fort Worth, TX 76108

817-246-3993

Specializing in African Violets



Starr Greenhouses

Kathleen Starr
1300 S. Hwy. 3
Etna, CA 96027
(916) 467-5199
Send for a free list

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER

On all orders received before Oct. 1, 1988
One plant or leaf free for every six purchased

JoS VIOLETS

15 Standard starters (my choice)	\$21.95
6 Hortense's 1988s	18.95
6 Hortense's starters	13.95
6 Wrangler starters	13.95
12 Semimini and mini starters	18.95
12 Trailer starters	18.95

My choice, labeled, different and postpaid.

Texas residents, please add 7% sales tax.

Send stamp for list

402 Dundee

Victoria, TX 77904

(512) 575-1344



Visitors by appointment.

SPECIAL FOR FALL

20 leaves (my choice '88 releases)	\$10.00
40 leaves (my choice '88 releases)	\$19.00
20 leaves (my choice '87 releases)	\$ 9.00
40 leaves (my choice '87 releases)	\$16.00
.....	
15 leaves (my choice minis & semis)	\$ 8.50
30 leaves (my choice minis & semis)	\$16.00
20 leaves (my choice)	\$ 8.50
40 leaves (my choice)	\$14.00
20 variegated leaves (my choice)	\$10.00
40 variegated leaves (my choice)	\$17.00

All different, labeled and postpaid. Shipping till Nov. 15, if weather permits. U.S.A. shipping only.

DORIS DRENNEN

1415 Central Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870

The Violet Express



*"Superior violets
expressly for you!"*

*** INTRODUCING SANDRA WILLIAMS' NEWEST RELEASES ***
ORDER NOW for EARLY SPRING '89 DELIVERY • Plants will be grown to YOUR special order.

* THE BEAUTIFUL NEW "BIMINI" SERIES *

- * BIMINI CELEBRATION - Dark, dramatic show foliage is a perfect foil for huge clusters of very large, ruffled semidouble stars of bright pink with a coral overlay. Magnificent!
- * BIMINI DAWN - Of deepest coral-pink with a sparkling red-pink overlay, these fluted, round semidouble stars make a fantastic presentation over the red-backed, dark green foliage. Excellent, early bloomer.
- * BIMINI LIME - Clear green ruffled edges set off these sparkling white double pansies. Beautifully refreshing above wavy, bright green foliage.
- * BIMINI ROMANCE - You'll fall in love with these lacy, pink semidouble stars, enhanced by ruffled gold edges. Delicate looking, but a very sturdy grower with velvety, slightly ruffled foliage.
- * BIMINI SWEETHEART - A tremendous showplant! Very large semidouble round stars in bright pink with a good ruffled geneva edge. The blooms are a gorgeous contrast with the large, dark green tailored foliage.

° THE LATEST "SUNCOAST" VARIETIES - ALWAYS OUTSTANDING! °

- * SUNCOAST CIRCUS CANDY - Literally hundreds of blossoms cover a mature plant and stay in bloom for weeks! Very full ruffled doubles in pink with strong chartreuse edges. Ruffled, velvety dark foliage.
- * SUNCOAST LAVENDER MAGIC - Richly decorated foliage of very dark green with multicolored variegation. Large semidouble blooms in two-toned lavender, pansies with ruffled edges and interesting striations in the petals. Shapes beautifully and grows large quickly.
- * SUNCOAST RUFFLED MAGIC - This magical showstopper has an abundance of huge, ruffled double stars in two-tone pink and red-pink. Gorgeous over the lush, medium ruffled show foliage.
- * SUNCOAST SEABREEZE - Rich green tailored foliage covered with large and lovely clouds of double white pansies with ruffled blue edges. Delightful as a gentle breeze on a hot summer day!
- * SUNCOAST SPECIAL EVENT - Large and fast growing, the dark, shiny foliage accents the very large semidouble candy-pink stars that bloom many to a cluster. Lovely contrast, eventful variety!

Starter plants, \$3.00 each. Minimum order, 4 plants. Basic Shipping \$3.50 per order. ADD \$4.50 for UPS 2nd day air.

(Wis. residents add 5-1/2% tax to total of plants and shipping charges.)

FOR YOUR SELECTION

Over 400 of the best proven varieties by the leading hybridizers. Fully described in my 1988 catalog. \$1, refundable w/order.

SHIPPING STARTER PLANTS AND FRESH CUT LEAVES until Nov. 1, weather permitting.

Genoa B. Cox, 1441 Everett Road, Eagle River, WI 54521 (715) 479-3099 or (715) 479-8663

Visit my "growing family" in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin. (Please call first) Closed Sundays and Mondays



PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

Inch		Number of Pots					
Size	Color	Type	10	20	50	100	500
2	White	RS	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/4	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	.95	1.60	3.50	5.75	24.50
2 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,SQ	1.15	1.80	4.00	6.50	29.00
3	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.35	2.30	5.00	9.00	42.50
3 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT,SO	1.55	2.70	6.30	11.00	50.00
4	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	1.85	3.20	7.20	13.50	60.00
4 1/2	Wh or Gr	RS,RT,SQ	2.30	4.00	8.50	16.00	76.00
5	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	2.65	4.90	11.00	19.50	88.00
6	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	3.25	5.65	13.00	25.00	119.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	RT	3.80	6.40	14.75	27.50	127.50
7	Wh or Gr	RS	6.30	11.75	27.50	49.50	235.00
8	Wh or Gr	RS,RT	6.80	12.75	29.00	55.00	250.00

(COLORS: Wh=White, Gr=Green)

(TYPE: RS=Round Standard, height & width are same.

RT=Round Tub, height is 3/4 of width.

SQ=Square, volume about the same as RS.)

PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow, about half as deep as they are across the top,
bottom holes only.

(Recommended In AVSM articles and convention presentations)

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50	100	500
5	Wh or Gr	3.00	5.75	13.00	22.50	97.50
6	Wh or Gr	3.65	6.70	15.50	29.50	132.00
6 1/2	Wh or Gr	4.15	8.00	18.50	35.00	163.00
8	Wh or Gr	6.25	11.50	27.00	52.00	240.00
10	Wh or Gr	9.75	18.25	43.50	83.00	400.00

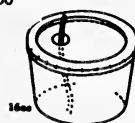
PLASTIC SAUCERS

Inch Size	Color	10	20	50
3	White	1.60	2.85	6.25
4	White	2.10	3.95	8.50
5	White	2.40	4.25	9.50

PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS

Volume	Height	20	50	100	500
8 oz.	1 3/4"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
16 oz.	3"	6.50	15.00	25.00	100.00
32 oz.	3"	10.00	22.00	42.00	135.00

(wicks are not included)



Plastic Marking Labels

3" (100) \$1.25
4" (100) \$1.75

Granny's Bloomers (Liquid)

Jungle Juice (Liquid)
Each — 2 oz. \$1.50
6 oz. \$2.50

OTHER ITEMS

Our free catalogue lists and describes several other items such as: Oyama (Texas style) Pots, Moistrites, leaf supports, pens, masks, gloves, meters, hanging baskets of all sizes, soil enriching materials, trays, books, and insecticides. The prices are low for your convenience. Your request for free catalogue will be answered by return mail.

**PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
WITHOUT NOTICE**

SEEDS

AFRICAN VIOLET SEEDS, KITS & STARTER GREENHOUSES

Ronn & Katsuko Nadeau of Nadeau Seed Company have authorized us to sell their products.

African Violet Seeds - a packet contains 100 seeds and illustrated instructions for the following:

- #1 = Rainbow Wonders mixed colors, standard;
- #2 = Little Gems mixed colors, miniatures;
- #3 = Autumn Fancies variegated foliage;
- #4 = Trailinrgue mixed colors, trailers.

Each Packet \$4.50

African Violet Seed Kit contains a packet of your choice: #1, #2, #3 or #4; plus 2 Jiffy-7 pellets, 1 growing container, and illustrated instructions. Each Kit \$5.20

Starter Greenhouse - Includes 1 plastic tray, 1 divider of 72 cavities & 1 transparent dome. Each Set \$4.25

Book by Ronn Nadeau, HOW TO GROW AFRICAN VIOLETS
24 pages with 42 color photos \$2.95

Nadeau Soilless Mix - 2 gallons \$2.80

Potting Materials

*Please Note:

Due to the bulkiness of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we are able to ship only eight (8) gallons of any one or combination of these three items with each order.

*Violet House potting soil	1 gal.	\$1.40
*Perlite	1 gal.	1.40
*Vermiculite	1 gal.	1.40
Canadian Peat Moss (milled)	2 gal.	2.50
Dolomite Limestone	1 lb.	1.30
Charcoal	12 oz.	1.40
Sphagnum Moss-long fiber	1/4 cu. ft.	2.75
Fish Emulsion - liquid	10 oz.	1.75
Leaf Shine & Cleaner (pump sprayer)	8 fl. oz.	1.50
House Plant Insect Spray (pump)	10 fl. oz.	1.50

PETER'S AFRICAN VIOLET FERTILIZERS

African Violet Special (12-36-14)	12 oz.	\$2.75
Variegated Special (5-50-17)	12 oz.	3.00
General Purpose (20-20-20)	16 oz.	2.50

CAPILLARY MAT (Vattex)

Water plants by means of capillary action. Dark plastic sheet, with tiny holes, lies on top of matting; pots are placed directly on plastic. Dark plastic minimizes growth of algae.

Each square foot \$.35
4 ft. wide, in any length. (4' x 1' = 4 sq. ft.) \$1.40

Minimum Order \$7.50 plus shipping
Florida customers must add 6% sales tax

Shipping Charges

48 States	\$3.00
Hawaii and Alaska	5.50
All other areas charged actual cost	
U.P.S. charges for C.O.D. orders	2.00

SEND FOR OUR FREE CATALOG!

Send Orders To:

The Violet House

P. O. Box 1274

Gainesville, Florida 32601

Phone (904) 377-8465

AFRICAN VIOLETS

Newest Varieties — US/Canadian Hybridizers
 Ship May 1 to November 1 — Weather Permitting
 Prior Notification of Shipping Date
 Leaves-Labeled-My Choice-PPD-NO LIST
 12-\$4.95/25-\$7.95/50-\$13.95/100-\$22.95
ELIZABETH BUCK (517) 761-7382
 9255 Lk. Pleasant Rd. Clifford, MI 48727

"Schultz-Instant" LIQUID PLANT FOOD

EASY DIRECTIONS

"7 drops per quart water
 Every time you water,
 Every thing you grow."



"Schultz-Instant" Fertilizer

EASY DIRECTIONS

" $\frac{1}{4}$ teasp. per gal. water
 Every time you water,
 Every thing you grow."



Available at leading Garden Centers and Plant Departments.
 Garden Clubs: SEND FOR OUR FUND RAISING OFFER
 Schultz Co., 11730 Northline, St. Louis, MO 63043

INTRODUCING our NEW AFRICAN VIOLET FERTILIZERS — A very special blend for **VIVACIOUS VIOLETS** of only the highest quality materials containing our **EXCLUSIVE TIME RELEASE FORMULA** in our new **LIQUI-PAK** — *Easy to use, no measure, no mess*

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Unique,
 Easy-To-Use
 Tip in Measure
 Container

Clip Coupon

Send order with Check or Money Order to:

Growth Products

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Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

All prices include postage. Thank you for your order.



by Cianna

2021 Michael Way
 Las Vegas, NV 89108
 (702) 647-3205

Fresh cut leaves, labeled, our choice, postpaid
 12 for \$9.95 25 for \$14.95

FALL SPECIAL:
 10 starter plants (mini, semimini & trailer) plus
 TWO standard growing CHIMERA starters \$24.50 ppd.
 All labeled, our choice.

PORCELAIN JEWELRY AND PLATE

Unique hand-painted porcelain pin, pendant, earring, and plate with African Violets. One-of-a-Kind. Great gift items.

For **FREE** Color Brochure, send SASE to:

LILY STIEL

P.O. Box 1001-AV

New Hyde Park, New York 11040



I am enclosing \$_____, please send me
 ____ 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. liqui-pak \$2.00 ea. _____

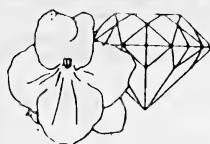
____ 16 oz. Tip & Measure 4.98 ea. _____

____ 1 gal. Tip & Measure 19.95 ea. _____

Sub Total _____

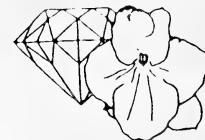
NYS Sales tax if resident — 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ % _____

Total _____



GEMCRAFT VIOLETRY

P. O. Box 6558
Annapolis, MD 21401-0558
(301) 261-8270



FALL SPECIAL - ENDS 31 OCTOBER 1988

Plants - Order 7 for the price of 6 - \$18.00 - Additional plants \$3.00 each • **Leaves** - Order minimum of 10 at \$7.50 and receive 2 leaves of each variety ordered; 20 leaves total • Additional leaves 75¢ each - Champion \$1.00 each

Order direct from the list below or any from our catalog. List substitutes.

Smoke Rings (Champion); Easter Joy, Pretty in Red, Raindrops, Sunbird (Fredette); Autumn Blues, Country Lass, Dusty Memory, Petticoats-N-Lace (Lyon); Dallas Deb, Mauve Memories, Moon Rays (Pittman); Wrangler Moonshine, Wrangler Pink Patches (Smith); Bridal Pink, Fontinelle, Omaha (Stork); Suncoast Garden Party (Williams); Kiss Me Pink (Groeneman); Mandolin (Harris); Mindi Brooke (Boone); Wonderstar, Magenta Lou (Nadeau); and many more lovely violets are available now.

Shipping Costs: \$3.50 for 7 Plant Special - Add 25¢ add'l postage for each plant over 7 ordered

\$3.50 for 20 Leaf Special - Add 25¢ add'l postage for each add'l 3 leaves ordered

UPS Second Day Air Required West of Mississippi River - Additional \$3.50

Nylon Wick - 10 cents per foot postpaid - Catalog \$1.00 refundable first order - No Overseas Orders



RAYS' AFRICAN VIOLETS

"Specializing in Miniatures & Trailers"

We want to thank each of you who have ordered our miniatures over the past twelve years. It has been a real pleasure to be involved in providing our little miniatures to friends all over the world.

Due to other commitments, effective June 1, 1988, Dewane and Ruth Goeke, Route 1, Box 73, Brenham, TX 77833 will be the new owners of our stock and will begin shipping to you. They are a very caring, delightful couple and we know that your orders will be in good hands. Send for their descriptive list under the name of Pleasant Hill African Violets.

We plan to continue to hybridize and participate in African violet activities. We look forward to seeing you in the future.

May God Bless Each of You, MICKEY and LINDA RAY

ROUTE 1, BOX 244

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77840

409-690-1407 (evenings)



PLEASANT HILL AFRICAN VIOLETS

Route 1, Box 73 — Brenham, Texas 77833

"Specializing in Miniatures & Trailers"

TWO FALL SPECIALS SURE TO PLEASE OUR MINI LOVERS -
12 PLANTS FOR \$29.95, PPD AIRMAIL OR BOTH SPECIALS \$50 PPD

SPECIAL No. 1: Miniatures from leading hybridizers

Allysa	Baby Sunshine	Blue Imp
Blueberry Swirl	Chapel Bells	Cotton Candy
Mickey Mouse	Mini Mine	Murphy's Law
Ruby Treasure	Taffy	Snow Lace

SPECIAL No. 2: Semiminiatures & Trailers from leading hybridizers

Angel Tears	Crushed Velvet	Donner Trail
Firesprite	Flamme Grande	Little Bountiful
Little Jim	Rainbow's Bantom Bliss	Ramblin' Silver
Rob's Never Naughty	Rob's Sticky Wicket	Rosebud Trail

18 leaves, new/previous releases,
our choice 10.00 ppd.
50 leaves, new/previous releases,
our choice 25.00 ppd.

12 leaves, all Wranglers, our choice .. 10.00 ppd.
10 Episcia Stolons, our choice 11.00 ppd.
You may specify your preference - standards,
miniatures, variegated, assortment.

Full Descriptive List of these and 300 other minis, semis & trailers & supplies - 75¢

Many New Varieties Included.

REMEMBER our 100-PLANT SPECIAL - \$165 Priority Mail Postpaid -
GREAT FOR CLUBS TO ORDER FOR RESALE!

Texans, please add 7-1/2% sales tax.

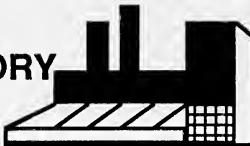
**Large Selection of
Photoillumination-Grown
Violets & Rex Begonias
Proven Varieties from Top Hybridizers**

Send Large SASE
for extensive list of
plants and supplies.

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08077

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Solvang, California 93463 • (805)688-2585



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& Related Gesneriads*

SEND \$1.00 for 1988 CATALOG
and "Currently Available Listing"
(overseas requests: \$2.00 U.S.)

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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Arranged Tour Groups Invited

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Quality Products & Service



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FERTILIZERS, POTS
& RELATED ITEMS.
FOR FREE CATALOG, SEND SASE

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Kountze, TX 77625

JAN'S FLOWER HOUSE

Specializing in African Violets and Episcias. Send SASE for list of 80 varieties of Episcias. Shipped May 15 to Oct. 1, weather permitting. Violets sold only at house. State inspected.

Janice Kreider

10652 Route 97

Waterford, PA 16441

Telephone 814-796-4159

"NEVER HAD SO MANY BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS!"

"WON 8 BLUE RIBBONS" • "CAN'T BE WITHOUT IT" • "I'M THE ENVY OF MY CLUB"

If you are serious about your African Violets and want them to be radiantly beautiful with full blooms and last longer you've got to try GRANNY'S BLOOMERS the formula contains the key trace elements

To keep your violet strong rooted with rich green leaves you need JUNGLE JUICE also good for strong root & leaf systems.

CACTUS JUICE with cactus loving high calcium and lots of trace for all your cacti and bromeliads.

FLOWER CRACKER is good for all your indoor and outdoor flowering plants excellent for your impatiens, geraniums, begonia, etc.

ORCHIDS EXOTICA super balanced orchid food excellent for all types of orchids.

MOONSHINE safe water soluble no-wipe leaf shine excellent of all your hard leaf plants.

GREENUP for all your sick yellowing plants contains lots of iron zinc, etc.

CLARE LABORATORIES, INC. DEERFIELD, IL 60015

Granny.

I am enclosing \$_____ please send me

- ____ 2 oz. JUNGLE JUICE \$2.00 ea. _____
- ____ 2 oz. GRANNY'S BLOOMERS \$2.00 ea. _____
- ____ 2 oz. CACTUS JUICE \$2.00 ea. _____
- ____ 6 oz. JUNGLE JUICE \$3.00 ea. _____
- ____ 6 oz. GRANNY'S BLOOMERS \$3.00 ea. _____
- ____ 6 oz. CACTUS JUICE \$3.00 ea. _____
- ____ 6 oz. FLOWER CRACKER ... \$3.00 ea. _____
- ____ 6 oz. SITTING PRETTY \$3.00 ea. _____
- ____ 6 oz. ORCHIDS EXOTICA ... \$3.00 ea. _____
- ____ 1 pint JUNGLE JUICE \$5.50 ea. _____
- ____ 1 pint FLOWER CRACKER ... \$5.50 ea. _____
- ____ 1 pint ORCHIDS EXOTICA ... \$5.50 ea. _____



100% Guaranteed!

____ 1 pint GRANNY'S BLOOMERS \$5.50 ea. _____

____ 1 pint SUPER HARVEST (vegfood) \$5.50 _____

____ 1 gal. JUNGLE JUICE . \$20.95 ppd. ea. _____

____ 1 gal. GRANNY'S BLOOMERS \$20.95 ppd. ea. _____

SAVE \$1.48 Any 4-2 oz. 1 6.50 ppd. _____

Specify _____

SAVE \$1.40 Any 4-6 oz. \$10.56 ppd. _____

Specify _____

SAVE! Any 4 pts. \$20.00

All prices include postage.

CLARE LABORATORIES, INC. handling .85

DEERFIELD, IL 60015 TOTAL _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____



The 1988 varieties are still available from **Fredette, Hortense, Hobbs (Dean's) and Boone.** We also have beautiful plants from **Kent, Lyon, Granger, and Wrangler.** We will feature some of the older varieties from these hybridizers and the best of **Utz and Maas.**

Our descriptive list is available for 50¢.

24 new leaves ... our choice ... \$18.00

New and previous releases ...

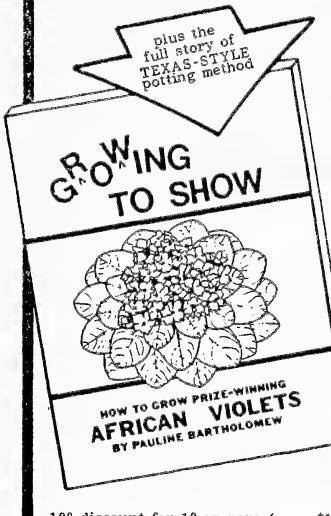
our choice ...

24 for \$14.00 or 50 for \$25.00

Micro mini pot and reservoir available in lavender, crystal, and watermelon, which enables you to wick water your micro minis. Price: \$2.00 each, 15 for 1.75 each, 25 or more 1.50 each. Other supplies available on list. Add \$3.00 shipping and handling, Texans add 6% tax. Please make check payable to **Shirley L. Sanders, 1034 Rayburn Dr., San Antonio, TX 78221 (512) 923-1093.**

AV WORLD'S BEST SELLER

THIS POPULAR BOOK HAS NOW BEEN TRANSLATED INTO JAPANESE AND PUBLISHED BY "ENGAI GUIDE" OF TOKYO. The foreword was written by Mrs. Toshiko Kawakami, the world's foremost authority on Saintpaulias. You may get a translated copy (30 pages of color photos) by sending a check for \$10 plus \$1.50 pah to AV Enterprises Press.



A step-by-step guide

Illustrated—112 pages
8½ x 11 paperback

usa/canada
\$1.50 pah + **11.95**

calif. add 6% sales tax
overseas postage: \$7.50
air mail or \$2.50 surface

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Oxnard, CA 93030

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each (save 75¢ ea.) total \$1.95! Overseas \$1.20 ea. surface.



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Our customers all say it ...
"We have the healthiest violets they've seen anywhere!"

Send 50 cents in stamps or coins for our new fall catalog of many new plants — included are many older varieties from our Spring 1988 catalog (and others) specially priced for clearance. Please print name and address clearly and send today! No overseas shipping.

Patricia Daniel
Ph. 316-542-0371

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Cheney, Kansas 67025

HOUSE CLEANING SPECIAL
JOAN'S VIOLETS FOR ALL SEASONS
 101 E Ave 2, Copperas Cove, TX 76522
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 6 Wrangler Starter Plants (my choice) - \$13.95
 postage included.
 IN SHOPPE SPECIAL \$1.00 ea. List \$1.00

JUDY'S VIOLETS

FALL SALE - Show quality violets
 30 New/Recent AV leaves (my choice) \$9.00
 12 New/Recent Starters (my choice) \$15.00
 Plus \$2.50 postage
 9 Graeler Drive Creve Coeur, MO 63146
 314-997-2859 List 2 Stamps



Cryptanthus

the Dazzling Earth Stars

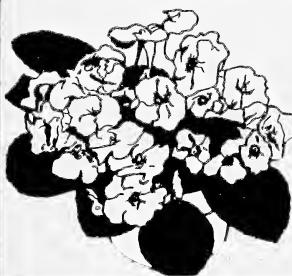
are the perfect companion plants
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Exquisite colors, leaf shapes and
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 year 'round in every shade of the rainbow
 Send 22¢ stamp for cultural information or
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AFRICAN VIOLET LEAF SUPPORTS 5 SIZES

6" fits up to 3" pot
 9" & 12" fits up to 5" pot
 15" & 18" fits up to 8" pot

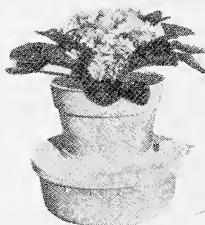
Made of leaf-green plastic, fit any type of pots
 send stamped, addressed, long envelope for
 price list and current shipping charges

J F INDUSTRIES

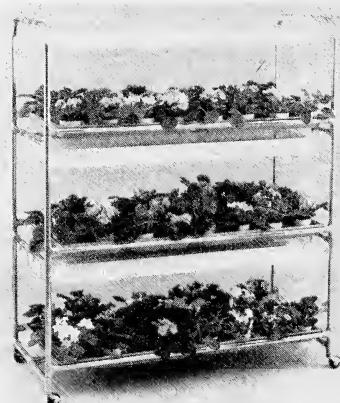
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CONSTANT FEED®
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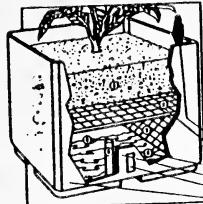
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NEW 3' X 3' pad makes a neat box in which to work on your plants. Flexible, washable — use again & again \$5.00 each

Pentac Wettable Powder

— (miticide)	8 oz. \$18.99
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RD 20 — fungicide, algaeicide & germicide	16 oz. \$9.59
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Orthene Powder

— a sure kill for blossom thrips	1 lb. \$13.99
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Orthene PT 1300-aerosol	18 oz. \$9.00
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Knox-Out - Microencapsulated Diazinon PT 1500-aerosol	16 oz. \$6.75
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Miniaturizing Mini Pots

NOW you can grow the MINIATURIZED MINIS that are sweeping the hobby. These little terracotta colored pots are 1-1/4" tall & 1-1/4" across at the top of the pot. They are a miniature of the standard clay pot but are plastic with a snap on saucer.

10	\$3.00
25	6.25
50	11.50
100	20.00
500	80.00

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We are once again carrying the small needle point holders!! That's right, the little bitty needle points

7/8"	\$1.25 each ... 12 for \$12.00
1-3/8"	\$1.50 each ... 12 for \$15.00
1-5/8"	\$1.85 each ... 12 for 19.20
2-5/8"	\$4.85 each
2-3/4" Aqua cup	\$8.40

Shipping and Handling Charges

\$ 7.50 to \$10 add \$2.50	\$31 to \$45.99 add \$5.50
\$11 to \$15.99 add \$3.50	\$46 to \$57.99 add \$6.50
\$16 to \$30.99 add \$4.50	\$58 to \$70.99 add \$7.50
\$71.00 and west of Rockies add \$.95 to all rates	

NEW! Self Watering Pots

Watch your plants grow as never before!

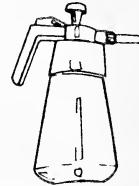
Eva	- 4" \$1.99 (Sq.)
Bora	- 4 1/2" \$2.25 (Sq.)
Ronda	- 6 1/4" \$2.99 (Rd.)

IVORY COLOR

Use the sprayer recommended by a popular speaker at the Orlando Convention!

PUMP SPRAYER

New and Improved! Fully adjustable nozzle allows choice of soft mist to jet stream pattern. 1-1/2 qt. capacity. Pressure pump eliminates finger pumping. Non-corrosive container that is easy to use. Finger tip control. Each - \$8.25 / 6 or more \$7.00 each



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Excellent book, 149 photos, every aspect of floral design. Softback \$16.40 pp.

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A Guide to Japanese Flower Arrangement

..... \$11.95



OPTIMARA POTTING SOIL

3 bags \$6.25 / 6 bags \$11.50

2 to 4 cases \$21.50 per case (12 bags per case)

OPTIMARA FERTILIZER (14-12-14)

3 boxes \$5.39 / 1 case \$35.50

(each box contains 15 pre-measured packets;
each case contains 24 boxes)

For charge orders send all information on card.

minimum charge order

— \$20.00

minimum cash order

— \$7.50

Send 2 Stamps for Catalog of Complete Product Line



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List \$1.00



JOY

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Specializing in Standards, Minis & Trailers of Proven Show Quality

Amateur Awards will be given by Mary's Violet Joy at the 1989 Kansas City AVSA Convention for the following African violet varieties: American Dynamo (Bryant), Maggie's The Trinity (Weir), My Wicked Ways (Jeanette's Jesneriads), Ozark Gal (Cox), and Rob's Daydreams (Robinson).

1988 Lyndon Lyon varieties now available: Autumn Sunset, Charming Heart, Double Dilly, Dream Lover, Fickle Fantasy, Firewalker, Flirtatious Rose, Irish Ice, Royal Sensation, Sent From Heaven, Starry Night, Sweet Delight; Lil Reflection, Little Missy, Little Prince, Pink Mint, Precious Peach, Precious Pixie, Snow Pixie, Snuggles Clown, Snuggles Lil Dreamer, Snuggles Lil Prince; Ramblin Lullaby, Ramblin Peach, Ramblin Spots.
Leaves \$1.25

U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail \$3.50



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1-912-574-5236



YOU ASKED FOR IT ... YOU GOT IT!

New and older varieties of African violets, from leading hybridizers, and our own new plants. All orders before Nov. 1 will receive 2 free plants with every 10 plants ordered. Send \$1 for our new 1988 catalog, or order from our ad in Jan. AVM. Try our Super Special - 12 husky starters - all different - \$20 postpaid - all plants our choice.

VISA or MASTERCARD

Minimum charge orders \$25 - For charge orders send all information on card • for phone orders call Monday thru Saturday

SPECIAL OFFERS

Basic Supplies Kit All of the basic supplies necessary to try wick watering PLUS step-by-step instructions. Includes a 2 1/2 oz. pouch of Peters 12-36-14 African Violet Special Fertilizer, a 3 quart bag of Violet Showcase Potting Medium, 6 Volkmann Bros. wicking saucers, 6 3" tubs, 6 3 1/2" tubs, 6 yards of thin wicking cord, and our best-selling VIOLETS THE SHOWCASE WAY. A \$14.50 value for only \$12.25 which includes shipping and handling. The BASIC SUPPLIES KIT is item #288.

SHOWCASE Plant Assortment Six different standard sized starter plants will be chosen for you from our available starter plants at the time your order arrives. We will choose an assortment of leaf and blossom types and bloom color in each shipment. All plants will be husky, well-rooted, named varieties in 2 1/4" pots. A \$18.50 value - our choice of varieties - only \$12.50 which includes packing and shipping. The SHOWCASE PLANT ASSORTMENT is item #289.

Preview Pack Includes samples of the charcoal, the 2 sizes of vermiculite, the perlite, each of the 3 labels, each of the pot sizes from the smallest solo cup thru 5", and the two brands of capillary matting. \$4.00 including shipping and handling charges. The PREVIEW PACK is item #335.

These items are also sold separately through our supplies catalog. Send \$1.00 for the complete plant stands and supplies catalog/descriptive plant list. Clubs/large scale growers ask for our discount bulk supplies list with your catalog/list.

SORRY, NO FREE LITERATURE; NO PHONE SALES.

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Potting Soil • Violet Food • Plant Food • Watermaid

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After Sept. 1, 1988 orders for slide programs are to be sent to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704.



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All Size Plants - Leading Hybridizers
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AFRICAN VIOLETS AND SUPPLIES**
Introductory Special - \$1.95 on Starter Plants
Send 35¢ for list of varieties
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2017-C So. 129th East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74108

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All are Gesneriads, a family of fascinating flowering houseplants.

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Membership includes a subscription to **The Gloxinian** magazine (6 issues) and a copy of the "How To Know and Grow Gesneriads" pamphlet.

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WHITE'S PLANT STANDS

- LIGHT WEIGHT • RUST-PROOF
- ATTRACTIVE WHITE COLOR
- MADE FROM STURDY PLASTIC TUBING
- EASY TO ASSEMBLE AND DISASSEMBLE

Our Stands are high quality, high durability, maintenance free, and inexpensive. Don't think you have to pay high prices to get high quality — you don't!

Model #	Without Fixtures	Stand + 3 Light Fixtures (One Per level)	Stand + 6 Light Fixtures (Two Per Level)
PS-0040-2	\$25.00	-----	-----
PS-0030-6	\$79.00	-----	-----
PS-0020-12	\$89.00	\$125.00 (\$140.00) (Lights Unassembled) (Lights assembled)	\$165.00 \$195.00

PLASTIC TRAYS \$4.50 EA. green color

CASTORS \$20./SET - Ball castors in gold chrome color. (Not for PS-0040-2)

PS-0040-2 (Two-Tray Stand) Holds two trays - one per level measures - 31" high x 23" wide x 14" deep - Can be used on table or mounted on wall. (Trays not included - sold separately)

PS-0030-6 (Six-Tray Stand) Holds six trays - two per level measures 70" high x 28" wide x 25" deep - Distance between levels is 22" (Trays not included with stand - sold separately)

PS-0020-12 (Twelve-Tray Stand) Holds twelve trays - four per level measures 70" high x 54" wide x 25" deep - Distance between levels is 22". (Trays not included with stand - sold separately)

Light Fixtures - 48" shop lights, rapid-start, needs two 40 watt bulbs, distance between tubes 1" Light fixture height adjustable up to 12" above plants. (Bulbs not included)

****SHIPPING CHARGES SENT C.O.D. VIA U.P.S.****

Send check or money order payable to: White's Plant Stands / Linda M. White, 3615 Lisa Lane,
Mesquite, TX 75150 (214) 613-8170 *Please call or write if you need further information*



Cobblestone Violets

323 North Main, Greeley, KS 66033

Fresh cut leaves from leading hybridizers. We are shipping starter plants this fall. We have a large assortment. List 50¢.

Leaves - \$ 9.00 Doz. (My choice)

\$12.00 Doz. (Your choice) Starter Plants - \$2.25 - Shipping and handling \$3.00

Please visit us if you are in this area. We love visiting with you, please call first. We keep irregular hours. (2 free plants with orders placed by Aug. 15)

Virginia & Jack Martz • 913-867-2920

ALICE'S VIOLET ROOM

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Newest varieties of African violets from Rainbow, Hortense, Wrangler's, Kent's, Betty Bryant, Boone, Ruby Cox, Tremblay, Croteau, and other hybridizers.

1988 varieties from Lyon's Greenhouses (plants \$2.50 each), (leaves \$10.00 per doz.) Angel Lace, Angels Glow, April Rose, August Skies, Autumn Sunset, Calico Miss, Careless Blue, Charming Heart, Cherry Cooler, Cherry Topping, Double Dilly, Dream Lover, Emerald Glow, Fancy Flirt, Fickle Fantasy, Firewalker, Flirtatious Rose, Heavens Reflection, Irish Ice, Paradise Pink, Peach Glo, Royal Sensation, Sailors Dance, Sent From Heaven, Starry Night, Summer Lace, Sweet Delight, Wildfire, plus 9 miniatures and 4 trailers.

See my ad in the May-June issue for a partial list or send SASE for complete list of over 400 plants and leaves. Shipping until Nov. 1. Add \$3.50 for UPS ground or \$6.50 for UPS 2nd day air.

SUPPLIES

OPTIMARA PRODUCTS

Potting Soil	8 qts.	\$1.99
Fertilizer - pre-measured 14-12-14	\$1.50 each / 4 for \$5.00	
Watermaids - beige or brown	\$1.50 each / 4 for \$5.00	
PETERS FERTILIZERS		
12-36-14	8 oz.	\$2.00
15-30-15	8 oz.	\$2.00
20-20-20	8 oz.	\$2.00
15-16-17	4 oz.	\$1.25
5-50-17	4 oz.	\$1.25
ALLEGRO	4 oz.	\$2.50
GREEN PLASTIC TRAYS		
17-3/4" x 12" x 2-3/8" deep		\$3.00
25-1/2" x 13-1/2" x 3-1/6"		\$2.75
18-1/2" x 7-1/2" x 2-3/4"		\$1.75
PLASTIC POTS	Each	50 or more
2-1/2" rd or sq - gr or 2-1/4" rd-gr	6¢	5¢
6" rd pan - green	35¢	30¢
Round tube with rolled lip		
3" green	8¢	7¢
3-1/2" green	10¢	9¢
4" green or white	12¢	10¢
3-3/4" white w/saucer	25¢	20¢
WICK WATERING RESERVOIRS		
16 oz. plastic	25¢	20¢
LEAF SUPPORT RINGS	Each	10 or more
6"	\$.90	\$.70
9"	\$1.00	\$.80
12"	\$1.25	\$1.00

KNOXOUT

Micro-encapsulated diazinon 1 Qt. \$21.95

SUPERTHRIVE 1/2 oz - \$1.39/ 1 oz - \$1.98/ 2 oz - \$2.98/ 4 oz - \$4.98

PHYSAN 16 oz - \$5.95/ 32 oz - \$9.95

SAFERS INSECTICIDAL SOAP

8 oz. Ready-to-use \$2.50

8 oz. Concentrate \$3.99

BUG DART PLUS

Systemic insecticide/fertilizer (10-5-5) sticks Ready-to-use \$2.49

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Pre-measured so there is no waste. Benomyl, Kelthane or Malathion - 8 bottles per pkg. \$2.99

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TROY MOISTURIZING MAT

Washable capillary matting - white 4' wide 75¢ per foot

MOIST RITE SELF WATERING PLANTERS (green)

\$2.89 each / 6 or more \$2.25 each

PLASTIC HIGH DOME TERRARIUMS

9" diameter - \$5.00 / 11" diameter - \$6.00

VIOLET NAME STAMP

3 or 4 lines - \$8.50 / Self-Inking - \$13.50

GIFT CERTIFICATES

WIDE SPECTRUM GRO-LUX BULBS - 18", 24" or 48"

1 Case (12 bulbs) - \$50.00 postpaid

Supplies shipped year round.

Please add \$3.50 shipping and handling per order.

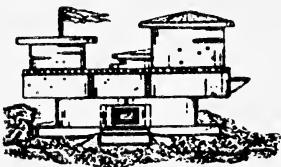
(outside the US - actual cost).

MC and Visa welcome.

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8a Maddison Lane
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Tel. (617) 334-6679

FANTASYLAND FALL FESTIVAL



Starter plants - 75¢ each • Leaves - 40¢
(my choice only) plus postage:
\$3.50 for leaves and up to 12 plants
13-30 plants - \$4.25
30+ plants - \$5.00
\$1.00 for 2500 variety list

MATT & JUDI KINGSBURY
Rt. 1 Box 11B
Clayton, WI 54004



CHIMERA SALE

P.O. Box 1052, Midland, MI 48641-1052

FOLLOWING \$5.00pp each:

Dixie Moonbeams Sport, Edna Irene, Erin, Kiwi Dazzle, Little Seagull, Mauna Kea, Summer Song

FOLLOWING \$9.00pp each:

Blue Border Sport, Flash Dance, Hawaiian Trails, Hurricane, Mermaid, Dancer, Silver Bells Sport

minimum - 2 plants

Also now offering:

EMIKO: big pink bloom, white

mid stripe \$18.00pp

MOONBEAMS: white, side stripe lavender-blue

w/darker fantasy \$15.00pp

YASUYO SPORT: wavy pink dbl,

blue mid stripe \$17.50pp

PLEASE NOTE: Fall shipping in U.S. - chimeras only. All stock available for foreign shipping.

We specialize in expert shipping to other countries.

Full List - \$1.00

SASE for entire chimera list.

State Inspected 517-835-9225



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HUGH EYERDAM & SON

**"GRANGER GARDENS
ALL AMERICAN HYBRIDS"**

NEW FOR FALL '88

FANTASY DELIGHT

SILVER FROST

FANTASY SUNSET

SHAWNA

MEMPHIS MAGIC

MASAYO YURI

HUSH BLUE

Listed varieties available wholesale & retail. Write for descriptive list, please enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. We welcome club inquiries regarding PROJECT PLANTS and can serve your needs anywhere from 10 to 100 of one variety. We also cater to clubs for sales plants in conjunction with your annual shows.

CHIMERAS: EMIKO - \$20.00

HOLY SMOKE - \$12.00

YASUYO SPORT - \$15.00 KILAUEA, YASUYO, MOONBEAMS - \$10.00

OLDER CHIMERAS - \$6.00

Wholesale prices available

WE SHIP WHOLESALE AND RETAIL - Retail shipping, 4.00 per order
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SALES ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE GREENHOUSE

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Phone 216-239-2349

Open daily and Saturdays 8AM til 5PM, closed Sundays



320 West Eagle
Arlington, NE 68002
(402) 478-4011
Kent & Joyce Stork

Minimum order: 4 plants, or 8 leaves, or \$15.00 on mixed orders.

Add \$4.00 shipping charge to each order. Most shipping is done via UPS. We encourage all east and west coast customers and those in areas of extreme heat to ask for UPS Blue Label (two-day) service. When requesting this service, add 50 cents on leaf orders, or add 25 cents per plant on plant orders, to the basic \$4.00 shipping charge.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ORDER FOR FALL SHIPPING TO US BY OCTOBER 15. By late October our Nebraska weather is often too cold for safe shipment of African violets.

Please list a few suitable substitutes with your order. We do our very best to avoid substitutions, but sometimes shortages do occur. If we cannot fill the greatest majority of your order, we will contact you. We reserve the right to make substitutions if necessary on minimum orders. Do not order plants if we have indicated leaves only are available.

Fall shipping only. Due to heavy spring in-store business, we are no longer doing spring shipping.

A SPECIAL NOTE: New this fall from Gordon Boone is a series of Halo hybrids with outstanding variegated foliage and great show potential. At the convention in Dallas, all of the Halo plants we showed were big hits.

NEW RELEASES FOR FALL '88: (starter plants - \$3.95; leaves - \$1.75)

Daybreak Blue (our hybrid) - large semidouble stars shading from light blue at the blossom centers out to very pale blue, almost white, at the petal edges; we've had blooms up to 3" on show plants; deep green, tailored, quilted foliage; abundant bloomer; excellent show plant; one of our best sellers at the Dallas convention.

End of Day (Boone) - large double medium blue stars with darker tips over wonderfully symmetrical dark green tailored foliage; superb show plant and an amazingly heavy bloomer; grows large.

Lacy Lady (Boone) - very large, vibrant hot pink, full double fluted stars edged in white over plain dark green foliage; a very heavy bloomer that really puts on a show with its brilliant color; exquisite.

Pathfinder (our hybrid) - masses of double purple blossoms with fluted white edges over symmetrical dark green pointed foliage; excellent show plant that shapes nicely and blooms profusely; one of our best.

Phantom Flash (Boone) - massive bouquets of frilled lavender/purple two-tone semidouble pansies over super symmetrical medium green foliage; an unbelievably heavy bloomer with flowers that last and last; this is a fantastic show variety, one of the best we have ever grown; won best in show at our '87 Missouri Valley Council show and was chosen as the best plant on our display table in Dallas; do not miss!

Phloxia (our hybrid) - bright fuchsia single to semidouble sticktite pansies in profusion over plain, tailored, dark green foliage.

Purple Smoke Ring (Boone) - very pretty lavender semidouble stars with frilly purple edges over tailored, somewhat glossy, deep green foliage that grows large and symmetrical; very prolific bloomer; sold out quickly in Dallas.

Royal Halo (Boone) - bright royal blue semidouble to double blossoms freely produced over large-growing dark green, pink and white tailored variegated foliage; excellent, vigorous show plant.

Satin Halo (Boone) - icy pastel pink two-tone doubles over strong deep green and light pink variegated tailored foliage; grows large and puts up masses of blooms.

Second Glance (our hybrid) - large misty orchid-pink two-tone semidouble stars held up in clusters over quilted deep green foliage; puts on a big head of bloom and makes a lovely show plant.

Sedona (our hybrid) - exciting red semidouble stars over plain tailored flat-growing foliage; we think it is perhaps the reddest violet we have yet seen; named for the scenic red-rock resort area in Arizona, as suggested by our friends in the Desert Sun AVS.

THE FOLLOWING ARE AVAILABLE AS LEAVES ONLY:

Burnished Halo (Boone) - deep dark plum semidoubles flushed with a slight coral glow in the blossom centers; the flowers are so dark as to look nearly black in contrast with the tailored variegated foliage; our first sellout in Dallas; stunning.

Coral Halo (Boone) - coral pink semidouble to double blossoms abundantly produced over tailored medium green and cream variegated foliage.

Enchanted Halo (Boone) - marvelous semidouble to double two-tone pink blossoms with frilled greenish-white edges; pointed variegated foliage; very heavy bloomer; one of our favorites.

Frenzy (Boone) - double blossoms of a somewhat variable combination of fuchsia-red and white are trimmed with frilly bright green edges over wavy medium green foliage; a real attention-grabber.

Furious (Boone) - huge deep red fringed semidouble stars over slightly wavy medium-to-dark green foliage; the blossoms are spectacular; a major hit in Dallas.

Garnet Halo (Boone) - Third Best New Cultivar in Dallas; vibrant, jeweltone, semidouble to double blossoms of deep purplish red atop magnificent cream and green variegated foliage; grows strong and large; an exceptional show plant.

Indian Corn (our hybrid) - large fuchsia semidouble to double stars flecked with purple fantasy markings over gorgeous tailored Tommie Lou variegated foliage; grows large; a beautiful show plant; limited supply.

Neon Halo (Boone) - two-tone semidoubles in almost electric shades of magenta over magnificent quilted show foliage variegated in dark green, lavender-pink and cream; grows large; eye-popping color!

Tooch (our hybrid) - large pale lavender-pink fluted double stars heavily spattered with purple fleck and streaks; broad medium green tailored show foliage; great bloomer; the name rhymes with mooth (Tooch is a nickname for our bubbly five-year-old son).

Twilight Halo (Boone) - huge masses of deep violet blue fluted doubles trimmed with fine white edges; superb tailored medium green and cream variegated foliage; a truly outstanding show plant.

Velvet Halo (Boone) - beautiful, long-lasting, velvety purple semidouble blossoms look perfect in combination with the deep green and lavender-pink variegated foliage; an excellent, sturdy show variety.

Order directly from this ad, or send fifty cents for our complete fall shipping list.



LARGEST SELECTION IN U.S.A.

SAVE 20/40% ON PLANT STANDS, LIGHT FIXTURES,
LAMPS, POTS, METERS & ACCESSORIES

Furniture Styled Square Aluminum Tubing - Easy to Assemble.

Show with PLR-42WS Fixtures

FIXTURES EXTRA. ALL SHIPPED BY UPS.

Order #	SH.	H"	L"	D"	Trays - Size	Bet. Shelves	A	*A(X)	B	*B(X)
B312 ()	3	73	51	23	12-22" x 12"	2-25" & 1-17"	\$144	\$129	\$207	\$177
B416 ()	4	73	51	23	16-22" x 12"	4-17"	169	149	245	205
C303 ()	3	73	51	20	3-20" x 49"	2-25" & 1-15"	209	194	265	235
C404 ()	4	73	51	20	4-20" x 49"	3-17" & 1-15"	263	239	339	299

*Have minor flaws or scratches, may not show with selective assembly.

BA3 FloraCart w/3 SLR-42WS Fixtures W/6 - 40 watt Gro-Lux (WS) Lamps, Less Wheels
Shipped UPS \$239

GRO-LUX, GRO-LUX (WS), and Powertwist Fluorescent Lamps discounted up to 45%.
40 Watt (WS) Wide Spectrum Lamps - 6-\$22; 12-\$40.87; 24-\$75.46

We offer 8 new plantlites with wide spacing between the lamps. The plantlites are made of aluminum to dissipate the heat and operate 10/20 F. cooler than steel fixtures. The wide spacing gives better light distribution, permitting the fixtures to be located closer to the plants. All plantlites are fully assembled, come complete with a 3 wire cord, a plug-in receptacle, an on/off switch, 4 - 24" chains for 1/4" adjustment and GRO-LUX (WS) LAMPS. All plantlites are 2" deep. 2 lamp models are 14" wide with lamps 10-1/2" apart. 3 & 4 lamp fixtures are 20" wide with lamps 7-1/2" and 5-1/2" apart.

Also available with deluxe (PLD) and electronic (PLE) ballasts. PLD models operate 25/35 F. cooler and use 11% less power, while PLE models operate 35/50 F. cooler and use 25% less power. Since the fixtures and lamps are cooler and have wide spacing on the lamps, they can be located closer to the plants and operated for shorter periods of time. The total savings are 11/22% with PLD models and 20/40% with PLE models.

PLR-42WS: \$ 55.00 (88 watts);

*PLD-42WS: \$ 60.00 (79 watts);

*PLE-42WS: \$ 84.00 (66 watts)

PLR-43WS: \$ 85.00 (143 watts);

*PLE-43WS: \$119.00 (99 watts)

PLR-44WS: \$ 89.00 (176 watts);

*PLD-44WS: \$ 99.00 (158 watts)

*PLE-44WS: \$127.00 (138 watts)

*Sometimes available in "X" models at Savings of \$8.00 per fixture

FREE CATALOG - SHIPPING: add 10% (Zip 0 - 7); 15% (Zip 8 & 9).

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2 tray models, \$179.00; 3 tray models, \$244.00 prepaid. Shipped UPS - PREPAID (Add 5% West of Denver) Light fixtures additional. Checks, C.O.D., Money Orders, MasterCard or Visa. Michigan residents add 4% Sales Tax. Free Brochure - Dealer Inquiries Invited. Phone (313) 422-2420.

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Shipping season is short in the fall so please send your order in promptly to ensure that shipment can be made before cold weather. Also check our ads in Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr and May/June for terrific spring releases.

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PLEASE NOTE: Due to heavy demand expected for Frosted Whisper this fall, we must place a limit of one plant with each order. We will not substitute on this plant but will hold your order until it can be filled.

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APACHE BLANKET - Fringed, reddish blue purple double with some green. Variegated green, white and pink foliage.

APACHE CANYON - Fringed and ruffled fuchsia s/dbl. Tailored green, white and pink foliage with light red reverse. (6524)

APACHE CELEBRATION - Fringed fuchsia s/dbl. Beautiful and different green, white and bronzy pink, slightly ruffled foliage. (6525)

APACHE FACE - White s/dbl. with ruffled deep pink edge. Variegated green and white foliage.

APACHE FEATHERS - Single light lavender pansy with darker edges. Does not drop. Variegated foliage of green, white and pink.

APACHE LOVE - Fringed lavender double. Variegated green, white and pink ruffled foliage with red reverse. (6528)

APACHE MAIDEN - Slightly fringed two-tone reddish lavender single. Does not drop. Variegated green, white and pink foliage.

VIOLETS BY SISK

BAYOU BELLE - Large frilly single pink two-tone. Elongated variegated foliage. White edge.

BREATHLESS - Large single velvet fuchsia blossoms. Hot pink variegated foliage.

CAJUN FIDDLER - Double edged pink blossom. Large white variegated foliage.

FOUNTAINBLEAU - Double medium blue blossoms on variegated pink and white foliage.

FRENCH MARKET - Double two-tone purple blossoms on pink edged variegated foliage.

KISSY FACE - Double two-tone pink blossoms on large white variegated foliage.

LOVE SONG - Double rosy pink blossoms on large serrated white variegated foliage.

SOUTHERN TRADITION - Large double two-tone fuchsia blossoms on white and pink variegated serrated foliage.

Large List \$1. Minimum order - 4 plants or 12 leaves. All plants in this ad are \$3.50 each plus shipping - Priority add \$4.50 - UPS add \$6. Leaves - \$1.25 plus \$3.50 Priority - UPS \$4.50. Mixed orders \$4.50 or \$6. We do accept V/MC on orders totaling \$20 or over. Send No. and Exp. Date. Texans add 7-1/2% tax.

Wholesale - 100 plants, \$1.30 ea. 50 plants, \$1.50 ea. our choice only. Great for Fall sales.

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Beaumont, Texas 77704

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BY APPOINTMENT**

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WRANGLERS (1988) MAVERICKS

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W. Savage Beauty - frilled sd. lilac two-tone, pink var. wavy fol.
W. Noble Savage - two-tone double lav. with green fringe. Pink ruffled fol.
W. Snowfields - snow white sd over tailored Champion var. Large plant.
W. Shadow Riders - red violet sd with smokey blue fringed edge. Gorgeous rose var. ruffled fol.
W. Dixie Dawn - Rose coral sd. large bell blooms. Tailored var. fol.
W. Ragtime Cowboy - large sd red violet with occasional pink markings. Gorgeous pink ruffled fol.
M. Bluegrass Music - dk. bluish purple green-fringed double. Dark holly fol.
W. Swinging Blues - blue doubles with green fringe. Beautiful pink ruffled fol.

Plants are \$3.50 plus \$4 for minimum order of 5 plants. 50¢ postage for each additional plant. Priority mail only. Shipping will begin when weather cools. SMALL ROOTED CUTTINGS WILL BE SHIPPED IF PLANTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE.



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Swans, kittens, pigs, hippos, cows, dinosaurs
Plus 8 designer styles

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Overseas catalog \$2. Gifts, Cards, Notes, Paper Goods and Jewelry available.

PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

3"-3 1/2"-4" round tubs have rolled rims

SIZE	COLOR	TYPE	10	25	50	100	500
1-1/4"	Wt. (only)	Thumb Pot	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.30	\$ 4.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 34.65
2-1/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.80	1.50	2.75	5.00	22.00
2-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. or Sq.	.90	1.65	3.00	5.50	27.00
3"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.00	2.30	4.00	7.50	34.65
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.15	2.75	5.10	9.50	43.45
4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	1.45	3.20	6.00	11.25	49.50
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.00	4.70	6.70	13.00	61.60
5"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.25	4.95	9.50	17.30	78.50
6"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.85	12.65	23.10	106.70
6-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	3.20	7.20	13.85	25.40	110.00

VIOLET POT WITH DETACHABLE SAUCER-ROLLED RIM

3-3/4"	Gr. or Wt.	Rd. Tub	2.85	6.60	12.50	22.50	103.65
3-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.						
4"	Gr. or Wt.						
5"	Gr. or Wt.						
6"	Gr. or Wt.						

PLASTIC WICK WATER RESERVOIRS

(recessed snap-on-lids) 16 oz	2.75	6.50	12.00	21.90	98.90
(wicks not included) 32 oz	4.25	10.00	19.35	36.00	147.95

PLASTIC LABELS

	100	500	1000
3" Lavender, White, Red, Orange, Yellow			
Blue, Pink, Green	1.00	4.40	6.25
4" Lavender, White, Green, Pink, Blue	1.25	5.50	8.80
5" Lavender, White	1.50	6.60	11.00
4 1/2" Heavy Vertical Stakes - White only	2.00	8.80	15.40

PLASTIC HANGING PLANTERS

	1	5	10	25	50
4-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	3" Deep	.70	3.10	5.60
5-1/2"	Gr. or Wt.	3-1/8" Deep	.75	3.50	6.50
6"	Gr. or Wt.	4-1/4" Deep	.90	4.30	8.10
8"	Gr. or Wt.	5" Deep	1.10	5.25	10.00
10"	Gr. or Wt.	6-1/4" Deep	1.50	7.25	14.00

PERMANEST TRAYS - Light Green - No Holes

	1	6	12	25	50
4" x 8" x 2-1/2"	.69	3.90	7.20		
8" x 8" x 2-1/2"	1.19	6.90	13.20		
8" x 12" x 2-1/2"	1.35	7.50	13.80		
22" x 11" x 2-3/4"	3.75	21.90	42.00		
13" x 15" x 3-1/2"	3.99	23.00	45.00		

PLASTIC TRAYS - No Holes

25-1/2" x 13-1/2" x 3-3/16"	Gr. or Wt.	3.25	17.00	31.90	60.50
Elise's African Violet Rings					
Mini (6") Gr. only	.90	4.75	8.50	16.25	29.00
9" Gr. only	1.00	5.00	9.00	17.50	33.50
13" Gr. only	1.25	6.50	11.50	19.75	36.50

FREDETTE'S ALLEGRO Plant Tonic

Excellent for starting leaves and small plants.

Use 3 tsp. per gal. water. 4 oz. bottle - \$2.75 each;

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1 gal. (for large growers) \$34.00 each.

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12" Diameter - \$6.50 each

White - Brown - Beige - Terra-cotta

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White - Green - Black

\$3.50 each - 6/16.60 - 12/29.50 - 24/52.00

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Supplies - Parcel Post \$5.00

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Mass. residents include 5% Sales Tax

Please include STREET or ROAD, Zip Code & Phone #

Prices subject to change without notice.

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5-50-17	Variegated Special	1.20 3.00
15-16-17	Peat-Lite Special	1.20 2.50
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	House Plant Special	1.20 2.50
Dolomite Limestone		2 lbs./\$1.25
Vermiculite	No. 4 Coarse	20 oz. 40 oz. 2.75
	No. 6 Medium	1.50 4.00
Perlite	No. 2 Coarse	5 qts. 16 qts. 3.50
Long Fibered Sphagnum Moss		8 qts./\$2.50
TROY Capillary watering mat — a full 4 feet wide		
\$2.25 per running yard — whole yard lengths		

BATEMAN'S

BOUNTY 6-2-2

8 oz. - \$2.99

16 oz. - \$5.25

STURDY

4 oz. - \$2.99

8 oz. - \$5.25

PLANT DINNER

8 oz. BOUNTY,

4 oz. STURDY +

Mixer Dispenser Bottle

\$6.35

TRUSTY 6-8-6

6 oz. - \$2.99

16 oz. - \$6.35

OYAMA PLANTERS

Green, Brown or White

4" - \$1.49 each

5" - \$1.99 each

5-1/2" - \$2.99 each

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SUPERTHRIVE

1/2 oz. - \$1.59

1 oz. - \$2.39

2 oz. - \$3.39

4 oz. - \$5.39

ORTHENE

75% Soluble Powder

1 lb. - \$13.50

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BUMPER STICKERS

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Without order please include SASE

*Every violet reveals a message,
Of the love and care you wage.
Nurture it in all its stages,
Greater joy can no plant give.*

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FANTASY FORTY ... \$3.59 WHITE CAMEO ... \$2.95

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PINK CAMEO, CAMELOT PINK, CORALETTE, FANTASY MIST, CELESTE (var), TIGER (var), MINI
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TRAILER.

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LITTLE AMETHYST, LITTLE APATITE, LITTLE DIAMOND, LITTLE ROSE QUARTZ, LITTLE SAP-
PHIRE ... shipped in 1-1/4" plastic terra cotta color thumb pots with snap on saucer (please give second
choice).

ORDER DIRECT FROM THIS AD OR SEND FOR 1988 COLOR CATALOG - 50¢, listing Floracarts, books, pots
and many other accessories.

PACKING AND POSTAL COSTS: Please add \$3.50 per shipment for packing and postage. West of MS \$3.95. CA
and all customers west of MS are served best by UPS 2nd Day Air. Please include an additional 35¢ per plant over
postage stated for this service.

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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 11 Number 6 November · December 1988



Strictly Business — Your Business

INFORMATION FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO ENSURE GOOD SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM, SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON. ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

MEMBERSHIP

AVSA Membership: Send check payable to AVSA for new or renewable membership to AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Life - \$175; Commercial USA - \$25, Commercial International - \$27; Individual - \$13.50, USA only. All other countries \$15.50. Remit in U.S. Dollars with draft or check on a New York, USA Bank. See Membership Application on page 1.

AFFILIATES: Chapter - \$13.50; Council, State or Region - \$30. Please complete the form received with your renewal notice and return to AVSA office with affiliate dues check..

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send ideas, offers to help, requests for assistance to Mr. John E. (Jack) Wilson, 6139 Willowick Lane, Springfield, VA 22152.

AFFILIATES: For information on shows, awards, how to organize a chapter or membership questions, write Mr. Bill Foster, 3610 Gray Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

AVSA OFFICE: Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704, 409-839-4725. Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

BEST VARIETIES: HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Rt. 1, Prescott, WI 54021.

BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Mrs. Linda Neumann, 11620 Mapleridge Drive, North Royalton, OH 44133.

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contributions (club or individual) to Mrs. Marlene Brown, P. O. Box 38, Oreland, PA 19075.

BUILDING FUND: Send contributions to Nell-Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051.

COMMERCIAL SALES & EXHIBITS: For information on convention entries or sales room, contact J. R. Pittman, 12406 Alexandria, San Antonio, TX 78233.

CONVENTION

AWARDS: Jan. issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Anne Jantzen, 2725 Katrina Way, Mountain View, CA 94040 by Sept. 1.

FUTURE CONVENTION DATES: Kansas City, MO, May 22-28, 1989; Boston, March 19-25, 1990; Santa Clara, CA, April 23-28, 1991; Columbus, OH, April 22-26, 1992.

PROGRAM: Jan. issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

If interested in sponsoring a national convention in your area, contact Mrs. DoDe Whitaker, Convention Director, 2085 Leeward Lane, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

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JUDGES DUPLICATE CARD: Send self-addressed stamped envelope to Mrs. James S. Savage, 39 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For blanks to register a judging school, send request to Mrs. Stanley E. Skelton, 3910 Larchwood Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041.

LIBRARY: Order AVSA slide programs and packets from AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. List in July issue. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate, write Mr. L. T. Ozio, Jr., 1009 Ditch Avenue, Morgan City, LA 70380.

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EDITOR: Jane Birge, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704, Office, 409-835-6008.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates and copy information write: Mrs. Meredith Hall, 922 East 14th Street, Houston, TX 77009, 713-869-0102.

DEADLINES - ADS: Jan. issue - Nov. 1; Mar. issue - Jan. 1; May issue - Mar. 1; July issue - May 1; Sept. issue - July 1; Nov. issue - Sept. 1. ONLY currently paid Commercial Members may advertise.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Lyndall Owens, P. O. Box 288, Beaumont, TX 77704.

ARTICLES BY READERS, COLUMNISTS and COMING EVENTS: Send to Editor. See above for address.

DEADLINES - ARTICLES: Jan. issue - Oct. 1; Mar. issue - Dec. 1; May issue - Feb. 1; July issue - Apr. 1; Sept. issue - June 1; Nov. issue - Aug. 1.

BACK ISSUES: Complete your set now. Request price list of available issues from Beaumont office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send new address at least 30 days before it is to take effect, along with old address, to AVSA office in Beaumont.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE: Notify AVSA office in Beaumont.

QUESTION BOX: Mrs. Nancy Hayes, 9 Cobblestone Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002.

MASTER VARIETY LIST: Number 4 (1983) \$3.00 postpaid. A must for judges, exhibitors, serious growers. Describes all varieties registered to July, 1983 - all recognized species, and non-registered cultivars introduced from June, 1976 to July, 1983. Order from Beaumont office.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Sent to Associate Members and New Members, only. Members renewing, receive card on white protective cover of AVM.

MVL SUPPLEMENTS: will be published in the AVM. Send any correction and/or description of new cultivars with hybridizer's name to Master Variety List Chairman. Back supplements (1984 to 1987) available from AVSA Office for \$1.50 each.

MINIATURE & SEMIMINIATURE VARIETY LIST: Available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704. Price, \$4.00 postpaid.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Janet T. Riemer, 392 Pennington-Harbourton Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534.

PLANT REGISTRATION: Marilyn Goldstein, 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

RESEARCH: Send suggested projects for scientific research, or names of interested, qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.

SHOW ENTRY TAGS: 100 - \$4.75 postpaid. Order from the AVSA Office.

VIOLET SEARCH: Send your name, address, name of plant and hybridizer of older varieties to: Judith Kingsbury, Rt. 1, Box 118, Clayton, WI 54404.



African Violet

MAGAZINE

Vol. 41 Number 6

November/December 1988

Every attempt is made to keep articles technically correct. Since the growing of fine African violets can be achieved in many ways, the methods and opinions expressed by writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AVSA.

ON THE COVER - Garnet Halo, Third Best New Introduction at the 1988 AVSA Dallas Convention, a Gordon Boone hybrid shown by Kent's Flowers (Kent Stork) of Arlington, Nebraska.

(Cover Photo by E.A. Johnson, Dallas, TX)

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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New Member Renewal



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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK TINARI
2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

EDITOR EMERITUS
MRS. GRACE FOOTE
211 Allien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77642

STAFF

JANE BIRGE, Editor
P.O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704
MRS. MEREDITH HALL, Adv. Mgr.
922 East 14th St., Houston, TX 77009
NANCY LAWRENCE, Office Manager
P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, TX 77704
BOB GREEN, Publications Chairman
997 Botany Lane, Rockledge, FL 32955
COLUMNISTS
David Buttram, Emilie Savage, Ellie Bogin, Margaret Waggespack, Norita Hallum, Betty Tapping, Hugh Mackey, Marie Burns, Bill Foster, Nancy Hayes, Nancy Lawrence, Linda Neumann, L. T. Ozio, Jr., Marlene Brown, Bill Johnson, Nell-Sue Tyson and Lyndall Owens
BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER
Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Ric. 1, Prescott, WI 54021
TALLY TIME COMPILER
Mrs. John Chase (Mary) Reed, 17124 NE 29th Place, Bellevue, WA 98008
PUBLISHER: Publishing Today, P. O. Box 1401, Beaumont, TX 77704

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

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Write your AV Advertising
Manager giving complete details.
While AVSA cannot assume
responsibility for advertisers, we
try to help resolve the problem.
If an advertiser is found
irresponsible, they will be
refused future ads.

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62. African Violets by Grace
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The African Violet Magazine (ISSN 0002-0265) is published six (6) times a year: January, March, May, July, September, November. Second class postage is paid by the African Violet Society of America, Inc., at 2363 McFaddin, Beaumont, TX 77702 and at additional mailing offices.

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SMITHSONIAN

NOV 1 4 1988

LIBRARIES

From the President's Desk



Dear AVSA Members,

I hope the unusually hot summer weather, which was so prevalent everywhere, is long forgotten and violet growers are being rewarded with beautiful new growth in dormant African violet plants.

The new 16-page supplements included in the September and November issues of the AVM must have been a welcome sight to our readers who have been requesting more articles on culture. The various lists in the supplements represent very important reference material, which may be left intact or removed and filed for ready access. If you like the new arrangement and readability of the magazine, be sure to write Jane Birge, our editor, and let her know. Inclusion of various supplements in the future will be influenced by reader approval.

I am happy to report that AVSA has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service for the 501 (c) 3 code. The status is retroactive to August 1987, the date of the first filing. This means that donations made to the Society since that date are tax deductible for the donor. AVSA's new exemption status does not cover the affiliates. Each affiliate organization must file for their own tax exempt status by contacting their local IRS office for the proper forms.

The AVSA Executive Board met on October 7-10, 1988 in Kansas City, MO. A detailed report of the meeting will be included in this column in the next issue of the Magazine; however, I would like to mention at this time, one important decision made in regard to our Affiliated Clubs. AVSA would like to provide liability insurance for those Affiliates who would like to have it. Before we can move forward to obtain this type of insurance, we will need specific information from each club who wishes to participate. Please refer to page 4 of this issue for details of how your Affiliate can help us realize this goal.

While in Kansas City, it was our privilege to meet with some of the 1989 convention and show committee chairmen. We were very impressed with the enthusiasm and convention progress made by these committees under the overall chairmanship of Esther Wells. Publicity in the African Violet Magazine about the convention has been great. Watch for convention registration material in the January issue of the AVM.

The Membership and Promotion Committee is conducting an ongoing drive for new members. For the good of the Society, we hope our affiliates will want to take an active part in this endeavor by taking advantage of the new free culture folder policy. Affiliates, as well as Commercial members, are now eligible for \$1.00 rebates for each new AVSA member recruited. Refer to Nancy Lawrence's Newsline column in the July and September 1988 issues of the magazine for more details, and order a supply of folders for your fall and spring shows and displays.

It is my wish that the Thanksgiving season will be a joyous occasion for you and your family.

Happy growing to all,

Frances Young

Newsline: AVSA Beaumont Office

Nancy Lawrence, Office Manager

IMPORTANT NOTICE LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR AFFILIATED CLUBS

AVSA has the opportunity to offer **liability Insurance** to our Affiliated Clubs.

Before we can determine the exact cost of the insurance, we must have the following information:

1. Would your club like to have liability insurance to cover your shows and/or other functions related to your African Violet Society?
2. We must know the **exact** count of total members in each club.
3. In answering the above questions, include the name of your club, the President's name and address.

WE NEED THE ABOVE INFORMATION IMMEDIATELY

The Insurance will cover ONLY those clubs who inform us that they want to participate.

COST: The cost per club will be based on the number of members per club. We do not expect the cost will exceed \$30 per year for those clubs with large memberships and we believe that the cost will not exceed \$15 to \$20 per year for smaller clubs.

Why the Insurance is Important:

We have been informed by many of our Affiliates that more and more shopping centers and other establishments require liability coverage before they will allow a club to use their facilities for an African violet show. If your club has not experienced this situation, you may have to face the problem in the near future; so now is the time to give this offer serious consideration.

AVSA has been trying, for some time, to find coverage, at a reasonable cost. The company that we are now negotiating with is the first company that has offered that opportunity; therefore, if we are to be able to take advantage of the company's offer, we need your **immediate** cooperation.

When we have received the information requested above, it will be forwarded to the insurance company. When the insurance company informs us of an exact cost, we will send the information to the President of each club wishing to participate.

We recently sent an affiliate information sheet to the President of each Affiliated club. We have a

count of membership for those clubs that returned the sheets; however, many clubs have not returned the information to us.

Library Slide Program Orders:

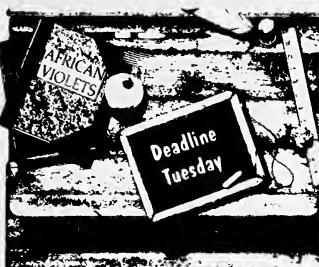
When you send your orders for slide programs, please do not forget to include a **2nd and 3rd choice of programs**. When possible, also give us a **2nd choice of date** to be shown.

Shipping The Programs:

When possible, we ship by UPS 10 days in advance of your reservation. The slide program box is placed inside a **shipping box**. The shipping box helps to protect the slides, and we request that you return the slide program in the same shipping box. Return labels are provided, and can be placed on top of the label sent to you.

We strongly request the slide program be returned immediately after your reservation date, so we will be able to ship on time to meet the next reservation date for the program.

Thank you and Happy Holidays from all of us here at the AVSA office.



Jane's Journal

Jane Birge, Editor

I hope everyone is enjoying the new 16-page supplements provided to you from your hard working AVSA Board of Directors. The first supplement appeared in the September/October 1988 issue and contained the lists of Judges, Affiliates and Commercial members. Unfortunately the size of the type had to be smaller than desired because of the great amount of information; however, the supplement in this issue, The Master Variety List Supplement, was able to go into a larger type size.

The main reason for these supplements (the third one will be the convention information in the January/February 1989 issue) was of course to "open up" the magazine so more articles on the culture of African violets could be worked into the regular format. Since my first plea for articles went out in the July issue, I have received quite a few, but as always, I want to have a nice backlog of good articles. We are still working on a writing contest which I will tell you more about in a future issue. I have received quite a few compliments on the first supplement, and would very much appreciate hearing suggestions and ideas on how to continually improve your magazine.

Joan Stuckey, 1 Forrest Drive, Lloyd Neck, Huntington, NY 11743 has written to request any back issues of the African Violet Magazine. Her husband is president of Wartburg Lutheran Services for the Elderly, and they have a violet club at the Wartburg Lutheran Home in Brooklyn and are soon forming one with the residents at the Lutheran Center for the Aging in Smithtown, Long Island. The magazines would be very useful and appreciated by the residents. Please contact Mrs. Stuckey if you have back issues available for her use.

Mrs. Mary Skinner, 5229 King Arthurs Court #1, Roanoke, VA 24019, has written to say she has copies of the African Violet Magazine back to 1971.

She has moved to a smaller place to live and would like to sell these copies. If you are interested, please write her at the above address.

Marilyn Goldstein, Plant Registrar has asked for any information you may have on three plants: Kev, a variegated semiminiature; Little Crystal, a white miniature; and Amber Trail, a miniature trailer. Please send Marilyn any information you might have concerning these plants. Her address is: 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

Working with the Kansas City people for the next convention has been a real pleasure. I don't think you can beat good ol' midwestern folks with anything. Of particular interest to me, in the latest copy received for the convention is the "mouth-watering" article written by David Buttram about all the good eateries in the Kansas City area. It's in this magazine and don't pass it up if you are planning on attending the convention. David must be pretty sure of himself when he touts barbecue and chili places — we Texans are going to have to check them out — since we invented those particular dishes. I can't wait, David.

The holidays will soon be upon us and we here at the office wish you and yours all of the joys and blessings that abound during these special days.

AVSA BOOSTER FUND

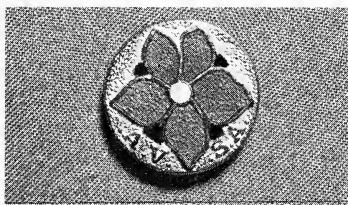
*Mrs. Linda A. Neumann
11620 Mapleridge Drive
North Royalton, OH 44133-2904*

The holiday season will soon be upon us. Please remember to put the AVSA Booster Fund at the top of your Christmas list!

Tampa AVS, FL	\$50.00
AVS of Montrose, CA	5.00

AVSA EMBLEMS

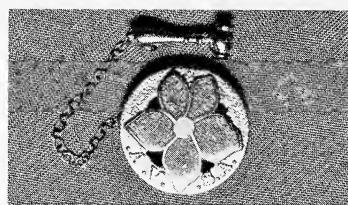
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A - 201
Member Pin
GP or Silver - \$12.75



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C - 202
President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50



D - 221
Past President's Pin
GP or Silver - \$18.50
(with Tie Tack) - \$18.50



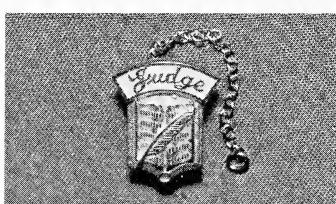
E - 204
Past President's Charm
GP or Silver \$18.50



F - 211
Gavel & Chain
GP or Silver - \$6.00



G - 234
Judge's Pin
GP or Silver - \$8.00
(with Tie Tack) - \$8.00



H - 210
Judge's Guard Pin
GP or Silver \$9.50
(chain attaches to other pins)



I - 208
Judge's Charm
GP or Silver - \$8.00

New Arrivals: Life Member Pins

Goldfilled - \$24 • Silver - \$20.00

The Language of the Gavel

By Ann Richardson

Did you who own AVSA pins with a gavel know that there is a language of the gavel? The angle of the gavel tells a story, as follows:

President-elect:



While in Office:



(as in use — rapping for order)

Past-President:



worn down, as at rest.

Some of the clubs in the south present their President-elect with the pin and gavel immediately after election so that she may wear her pin showing that she is President-elect and also during her presidency.

AVSA Commercials

A Closer Look

David Buttram
P. O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051



Winston Smith

This is an interview I have looked forward to for a long time. No commercial grower or hybridizer has prompted more cards or letters (yes, I do read each one) than Winston Smith of Liberty, Texas, who has given us the Wrangler and Maverick series of African violets.

Winston lives north of Liberty, Texas, which is about 50 miles northeast of Houston. He shares his home with Happy, Brandy, Ryder, Sam, Joe, Bussie, and Tex. These are beautiful golden or champagne-colored cocker spaniels. The lively dogs greeted me at the gate where Winston quickly appeared and invited me into his home. He is tall, hospitable, and very much the southern gentleman.

Although Winston's experiences with African violets go back many years, he attended an African violet convention in the early 1960s in Dallas. "I was disappointed — it was awfully hot. With no air-conditioning the plants didn't look too good. We just walked through and came on back. My next convention was the AVSA convention in Los Angeles about four years ago."

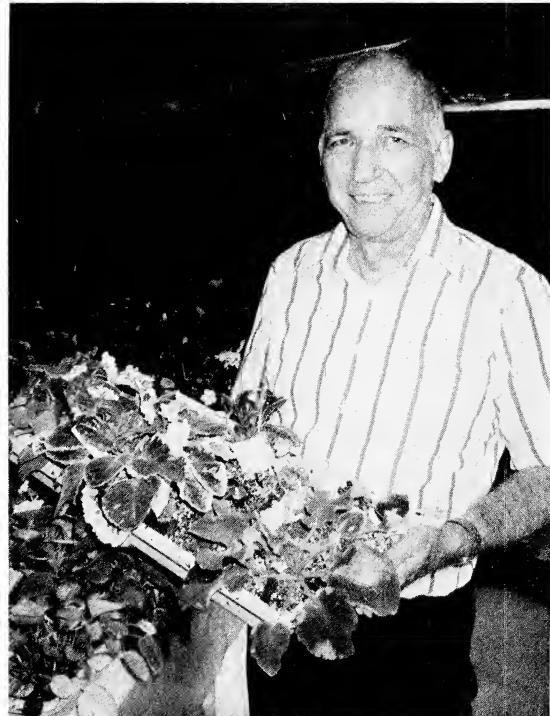
Winston used to order plants from various growers across the country and friends in the south Texas area. He was particularly fond of the cultivars of Margaret Vallin and over the years they became close friends. She has a son about Winston's age and together they are like family. To Winston she "is like a mama to me."

It was his affection for this 83-year-old woman whom Winston considers to be the best hybridizer he has ever known, that motivated him to begin hybridizing on his own. His fondness for Mrs. Vallin's new cultivars kept him coming back to buy her new ones. "I bought her plants just as fast as she hybridized them. Over the years we became so close and I

thought it was a shame that no one ever honored her with a plant named after her. So, I said I am going to make some crosses to see if I can get something worthy of her name. She didn't know this. No one did.

"So I would make crosses and the seed pods would die. I even asked her what I was doing wrong."

Mrs. Vallin asked all kinds of questions about the way he was making his crosses. Finally she asked, "What kind of blossom are you using for the seed



Winston Smith proudly displays some of his latest releases.

bloom?" "Oh, I don't know, and besides what difference does it make?"

Her reply was that, "It makes a lot of difference. Now start making your crosses onto the first bloom because its stem is stronger and lasts longer." That was the advice that solved his problem and provided the breakthrough he needed.

After several months passed, Winston had several of his own varieties growing and word of his beautiful pink and green variegation got around. He was approached by Mollie Richie of Houston who encouraged him to show at the Lone Star Council Show. Winston remembers her willingness: "Mollie told me to bring my plants in and she would take them to the show. I said okay and told her that I would come back for them.

"That was my first bunch of seedlings. You see, all I had were numbered. Mollie told me later that one of mine was among the three considered for Best Plant of the Show, but because it didn't have a name, it didn't win.

"That plant was number 'SSP8' and was the one I chose to name 'Wrangler's Margaret Vallin.' Later

I named my all-time favorite seedling, 'Wrangler's Dixie Celebration.' When it came along, I was sorry that I had not waited six months more as I wanted the very best named for Mrs. Vallin.

"I kept my plants and treated them pretty rough. I watered with a water hose, and still do. In 1981 or thereabouts, Mollie Richie told me to get my plants ready for Dixie for it would be good exposure for me."

"What's Dixie?" She explained that it was Dixie African Violet Society and was limited to southern states, but Winston wasn't particularly interested in getting any exposure — this was still just a hobby with him.

Winston decided to enter and filled his van with his best variegated seedlings. He wanted Mrs. Vallin to look at them before entering them in the show. "I told her that if she didn't like them, I would take them home — I wanted her to tell me the truth.

"I drove the van to her home and when she came outside to see them, I opened the doors and she exclaimed, 'Oh my god!' That could have gone either way. My heart just sank. I asked what was



Winton has built very wide benches to accommodate his seedlings.

wrong with them. Her answer: 'Winston, those are the prettiest plants I have ever seen in my life.' She then helped me groom and clean them before taking them to the hotel."

The Wrangler's were the rave of the convention and leaves from the show plants were sold until just a tiny cluster of crown leaves remained. The demand made Winston realize that his simple desire of wanting to honor his friend Margaret Vallin had far exceeded any goals he had set.

Soon Dottie Wilson, Linda Ray, Ray Scott and his wife, drove down from Brenham, Texas to visit. It was Linda who took Winston aside and almost insisted that he place his new varieties on the market.

By this time Winston was truly bitten by the hybridizing bug. He bought 'Optimara Colorado' and used its pollen on his 'Persian Tapestry' and Lanigan's 'Sunlit Sugar Plum' and got about 40 "delicious" varieties. "Everyone of them is beautiful. Some have not even been released," says Winston.

"I've never had a genetics course in my life; I just eye the two parent plants and hope for the best. It has to be luck because I haven't had any background in science. I teach business courses in high school — shorthand, typing, and I have taught English."

Winston did not like the way various hybridizers had their cultivars spread throughout the Master Variety Lists. "I went to Mrs. Vallin and asked her to help me get a logo. She thought and thought. I was over there one day and she suggested 'Maverick' and I liked it and its western motif. But for some reason it didn't tie in with the variegated plants. I thanked her and we talked and she suggested 'Cajun' and some other names which didn't fit either."

"I searched through newspapers, magazines for a name. Then one day I was watching television and an advertisement for Wrangler jeans appeared. I jumped up — that's it! That's the word I want for my variegated plants. I kept 'Maverick' for my non-variegated plants."

During the past 10 or more years, Smith has introduced over 140 Wranglers and about 15 Mavericks. He eagerly looks forward to each new seed pod and the promises it holds. Presently he is working toward deeper pinks and rose colors. In the Maverick line, he wants more green edges and then he is beginning to move in the direction of miniatures and trailers.

One line of the Wranglers of which Winston is

justifiably proud is the 'Savage' line which came from a cross between 'Emilie Savage' (a Granger Gardens introduction) and a Wrangler. The results are literally breathtaking. Winston has formally released two cultivars from this cross and has about four more he plans to release soon.

Emilie Savage, AVSA Shows & Judges Committee Chairman, is rightfully proud of her namesake, and told me that "Jim and I were most honored and delighted." Already she has grown 'Wrangler's Savage Beauty' to show size and is thrilled with the natural way it shapes for a exhibition plant. 'Wrangler's Noble Savage' is another one she is growing with great optimism. Other 'Wrangler Savages' are on the way.

Winston's two greenhouses are located behind his home and are separated from the house by a nearly completed fish pond which will be home to several koi fish with long flowing fins. Water will cascade down a 15-foot fountain constructed of volcanic rock from Mt. St. Helens which matches the reddish sandstone around the edge of the pond. Completion is scheduled for next spring.

The first greenhouse not only contains Winston's beautiful violets, but about 30 tanks of tropical fish. He raises several varieties of fish, but specializes in developing his own strains of guppies and bettas. His male guppies have bright neon orange tails that flow gracefully and his bettas are a unique iridescent



A tank of E. Pink Velvet. Winston loves this fast growing pink Episcia.

golden color I have never seen before.

With all of the many things he has to do, Winston does have helpers come in from time to time to assist in potting, repotting, cleaning and some many other jobs that have to be done.

Now for one of the most interesting aspects of this entire interview. Winston looked at me very straight and said, "There's one other thing I want to tell you. You have to believe this because it's true and I have witnesses." At this point you know that Winston Smith had my full, undivided attention.

"David, do you know Emma Lahr of Colorado?" I responded in the affirmative. "She held a plant in this greenhouse which she didn't want to. But I told her that she should so she could say that she had held an African violet with yellow blooms."

The plant Winston referred to was a sport from one of Mrs. Vallin's varieties. This is the way Winston told the story. "A group of judges had gone to the Beaumont area to judge a show and were on their way back to Houston. They decided to come by for a visit. There was Mollie Richie, Susan Myers and some others — a total of six, I believe. In one corner of the greenhouse I had several mutations of a plant of Mrs. Vallin's that I had been growing for years. One of the plants was named 'White Silver Sands' and had sold several of them.

"One lady bent down and picked one up and I picked up one next to it and explained that they did vary. All of a sudden she screamed and I thought that she had seen a snake. I froze. 'What's wrong?' I asked. She said there is a cluster of yellow blossoms under some leaves in the back.

"I told her that there was not such a thing. She said, 'Well, you lift up that foliage.' I did and there was a handful of gorgeous yellow blossoms. Mollie went inside my home and called Grace Foote, then editor of the African Violet Magazine. Grace told her to have me bring it to Beaumont at the next show."

Winston quickly put down leaves and had plants that produced an occasional light yellow blossom, but nothing like the original plant.

"I didn't even have a thought about taking it to a professional photographer to get a picture made for proof. It never entered my mind."

The yellow blooming plant was lost along with its subsequent offspring during a freak cold spell during which the temperatures went down to the teens for five days. Winston said he could not remember such a lengthy cold period in that part of Texas. That

greenhouse was not properly insulated or heated to deal with the frigid air and all plants were lost.

It is ironic that an aberration of weather destroyed the long sought aberration of the plant world.

Regretfully Winston did not separate the plants prior to the cold weather: "I didn't even think to place some of the stock in the other greenhouse which was better insulated and heated."

This man, Winston Smith, is truly a renaissance man with eclectic interests. He is a quick speaker with an ability to address so many areas of life. He loves and cares for the youth he has taught for 40 years. Perhaps it has been his classroom experiences as well as driving a school bus that keeps him younger than his 63 years. Maybe his expectations for future generations of his African violets and tropical fish keep his future vibrant and full of hope. His loving cockers make each day special.

After a few hours with this man I am reminded of an old country saying: Winston Smith is good people.

In Memory

HELEN LAMM

Her many friends will remember Helen as an avid grower of the African violet. She was always willing to share her knowledge and expertise with those who wished to learn to grow plants of the African violet family.

She gave generously of her time and talents to her clubs and she was counted as a kind and giving member.

Her clubs included the AVSA, the Evening Saintpaulia Society, the African Violet Society of Northern Illinois, the Exhibitors Club of Chicago and the Illinois African Violet Society.

She will be missed by her many friends.

—Mildred Schroeder

Affiliates, Don't Forget ...
Order your AVSA Library
Slide Programs & Packets
from the AVSA Office
in Beaumont, TX.



1988 Best Varieties

Mrs. Leon Fiedler

R. R. 1

Prescott, WI 54021

This list was compiled from 1,687 individual lists. Thank you.

# of Votes	Variety, Reg. #, Hybridizer	# of Votes	Variety, Reg. #, Hybridizer	# of Votes	Variety, Reg. #, Hybridizer
616	Granger's Wonderland, 3419, H. Eyerdom	99	Boca Grande, 5112, Williams	67	Optimara Manitoba, 6569, Holtkamp
526	Kimi, n/r, A. Fischer	99	Dumplin', 3931, Swift	66	Glittersweet, 4431, Fredette
441	Snuggles, 5018, Lyon	97	Fisherman's Paradise, 4843, Sisk	66	Kingwood Red, 4308, H. Eyerdom
348	Happy Cricket, 5726, Hollada	96	Winnergreen, 4693, Pittman	65	Jason, 3004, Maas
341	Tiger, 3433, Fredette	94	Mary D, 2675, Maas	65	Melissa Anne, n/r, Volkmann
339	Mark, 3007, Maas	93	Christmas Candy-O, 5032, Groeneman	65	Trail Along, n/r, Lyon
303	Pixie Blue, 2598, Lyon	89	Canadian Sunset, 4852, B. Elkin	64	Corpus Christi, 3075, Utz
301	Ms Pretty, 5225, Anderson	88	Autumn Honey, 4462, Groeneman	63	Optimara Oklahoma, n/r, Holtkamp
272	Precious Pink, 6025, Pittman	88	Fickle Flirt, n/r, Sorano	63	Optimara Alabama, 6542, Holtkamp
242	Amazing Grace, 2688, Soultz	86	Aca's Eye Knees, 5042, Brownlie	62	Falling Snow, n/r, Tracey
236	Splendiferous, 5813, Susan's Violets	85	Little Rose Quartz, n/r, Holtkamp	62	Summer Lightning, 5023, Lyon
232	Kiwi Dazzle, 5888, Snell	84	Camelot Pink, 4293, H. Eyerdom	61	Colorado, 3152, Holtkamp
190	The King, 2698, Maas	84	Chiffon Print, 6434, Fredette	60	Sheer Heaven, 6369, Lyon/Sorano
156	Granger's Desert Dawn, 4050, Eyerdom	83	Granger's Cameo Queen, 2863, H. Eyerdom	59	Big Tease, 5027, Sorano
153	Nortex's Snowkist Haven, 6046, Johnson	82	Granger's Carnival, 4298, H. Eyerdom	58	Dawn Michelle, 5742, Nadeau
151	French Lilac, 2844, Swift	82	Kermite, n/r, Baker	58	Pay Dirt, 4888, Tracey
146	Snow Rose, 5985, Susan's Violets	81	Anna Kreeck, 5784, E. Trent	57	Wrangler's Canyon Echoes, 4675, W. Smith
143	Fisher's Leone, 4540, E. Fisher	81	Emilie Savage, 5445, H. Eyerdom	56	Mars, n/r, Holtkamp
143	Optimara New Mexico, 6583, Holtkamp	81	Nortex's Snowfrill Haven, 6045, Johnson	56	Midnight Romance, 5998, Lyon/ Sorano
142	Irish Angel, 4054, Egenites	77	Optimara Hawaii, 6558, Holtkamp	56	Old Dominion Sparkler, 5623, Homyer
141	Ballet Marta, 2899, A. Fischer	77	Wrangler's Pink Patches, 6230, W. Smith	56	Perk Up, n/r, Lyon
136	Snow Trail, 3678, Lyon	76	Country Lass, 6350, Lyon/Sorano	56	Pink n' Ink, 3173, Lyon
135	Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, 4490, W. Smith	76	Grandma's Zack, 5164, Nadeau	54	Wrangler's Jealous Jewel, 6226, W. Smith
134	Wrangler's Jealous Heart, 6225, W. Smith	75	Abigail Adams, 3226, Fredette	53	Sammie Ballard, 3563, H. Eyerdom
133	Crystallaire, 4295, Eyerdom	75	Sundown, 3598, Utz	53	Tiger Lily, 6419, Egenites
127	Something Special, 3668, Nadeau	74	Granger's Heart's Desire, 3407, H. Eyerdom	52	Garnet Elf, 2339, H. Eyerdom
126	Tommie Lou, 1744, Oden	73	Vibrant Val, 3918, Lyon	52	Helene, 2885, Lyon
124	Frances Young, 5890, Pittman	72	Becky, 2669, Maas	51	Adeline Krogman, 4010, Tinari
124	Ming Blue, 5823, H. Eyerdom	71	Dancin Trail, 5565, Sorano/Lyon	51	Big Bird, 5155, Fredette
123	Beginner's Luck, 2803, Pritchett	70	Columbia, 5450, Eyerdom	51	Chris Leppard, 4636, Maas
118	Nancy Reagan, 2167, Rienhardt	70	Lady Baltimore, 4337, Fredette	51	Polly Doodle, 4339, Fredette
115	China Pink, 3429, Fredette	70	Love Bug, 4513, Lyon	50	Dyn-o-mite, 3440, Lyon
111	Ballet Lisa, 2898, Fischer	70	Lullaby, 1783, D. Eyerdom	50	Kristi Marie, 3914, Lyon
111	Mauna Loa, 5336, Eyerdom	70	Party Lace, 4989, Tracey	50	Lilian Jarrett, 1060, Tinari
111	Optimara Nevada, n/r, Holtkamp	69	Hart's Snow White, 5590, Hart	50	Little Katherine, 6238, A. Hart
110	Fairy Queen, n/r, A. Fischer	68	Interlude, 4935, H. Eyerdom	50	Snuggles Delight, 6370, Lyon/Sorano
109	Tina, 2680, Maas	68	Mickey Mouse, n/r, Inpijn		
104	Black Ace, 3541, Nadeau	67	Coral Radiance, 3672, Lyon		
101	Little Jim, 3005, Maas	67	Love Spots, 4543, Lloyd		
100	Magic Blue, 6429, Pittman				



Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

*Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Chairman, Miniature and Semiminiature Cultivars
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561*

SPRING SHOWS

AVS of MINNESOTA

Gold rosette, Snuggles, Magic Blue, Irish Angel, best mini, Timid Teen, Elizabeth Frigstad.

AVS of PENSACOLA, FL

Best mini, Rhythm Rascal, best semi, Beginner's Luck, Louise Merritt; best trailer, Cirelda, Jean Jones.

BALTIMORE AVC, MD

Best mini, Paradise Baby, Julia Stahl; best semi, Little Pro, Best PCAVJ col., Little Pro, Snuggles, Tip Top, Marie Burns.

CENTRAL JERSEY AVS, NJ

Gold rosette, Snuggles, Irish Angel, Honey Jay, best in show, best semimini, Snuggles, NJCAVJ col., Wild Lemon, Irish Angel, Happy Go Lucky, best mini, ACA's Sakura, Nancy Imhof.

COPPER CITY AVS, Rome, NY

NYSAVS mini col., Mildly Meek, Jo Bo, Esther Hopper, NYSAVS semi col., Rob's Ink Storm, Hart's Snow White, Little Katherine, best trailer, Snow White Trail, Annabelle & Wilson Hart.

DELAWARE AVS

Show princess, mini queen, Wee Mischief, DAVS mini col., Mini Minx, Vickie Ruth, Little Red, DAVS semi col., Tip Top, Snuggles, Dolled Up, Mrs. Robert Pyle; best reg. mini or semi col., Irish Angel, Wee Blue Eyes, Winnergreen, Mrs. S. G. Borleske; semimini queen, Litta, Mrs. Andrea Pirone; best mini trailer, Pixie Blue, Mrs. Roger O. Waugh; best semi trailer, Dancing Trail, Mrs. W. S. Cattlett.

HERITAGE AVS, Long Island, NY

Best mini, Charlotte King, best semi, Snuggles, best trailer, second best in show, Spunky Trail, NYSAVS mini col., Mini-Mam, Pygmy Chief, Charlotte King, NYSAVS semi col., Snuggles, Irish Angel, Little Doll, Anne Lee.

LONG ISLAND AVS, NY

Gold rosette, ACA's Wackie Jackie, Lady Jane,

Precious Pink, best mini, Alan's Valley Girl, best semi, Precious Pink, Dolores O'Sullivan.

PAUMONOK AVS, NY

Best mini, Rob's Soliloquy, best NYSAVS mini col., Rob's Soliloquy, Mini Minx, Little Marsley, Bud Weber; best semi, Magic Blue, NYSAVS semi col., Magic Blue, Little Pro, Tip Top, Susan Heidt; best trailer, Lora Lou, Marion Spyridon.

RICHMOND AVS, VA

Best in show, best mini, Wee Dear, second best in show, Sensational Sandra, Mrs. Alice Grundy; best semi, Rhapsodie Scarlet, Dave Hudson.

SAN JOAQUIN AVS, Stockton, CA

Second best in show, best semi, Little Pro, best trailer, Sky Diver, Doris Weaver; best mini, Lil Tease, Vera Parker.

SAN MATEO COUNTY AVS, CA

Purple rosette, Hart's Snow White, Little Jim, Snuggles, best mini, Little Rose Quartz, best semi, Greensleeves, Enid Wood; best in show, best western, Sunset Trail, second best in show, Falling Snow, Rosalie Gamlin.

SWEETWATER AVS, NY

Gold rosette, Little Joy, Rob's Lilliputian, Dawn Michelle, Jane Weber; best mini, Little Sapphire, best trailer, Foxwood Trail, Bill Paauwe; NYSAVS mini col., Little Pink Bell, Rob's Bedazzled, Paradise Baby, Jane Hiltz; NYSAVS semi col., Lil Sassy, Whatta Gal, Ultra Nice, Carolyn Klein.

UPPER PINELLAS AVS, Clearwater, FL

Queen of show, Precious Pink, Selma Halegua.

Some plants seem to generate problems. The latest is Little Sapphire. When I read Pauline Bartholomew's book calling it a trailer, I called Holtkamp and they said it was a mini. Since then I have been led to understand that some come in as minis and others as trailers. If it trails it is supposed to be called Little Sapphire Trail. Until it is completely straightened out it could be put in both classes

under both names.

There is also a problem with the name micro-mini. AVSA does not have nor does not wish to add another class called micro-minis. The solution is that it will be classified as a mini but under foliage it

would read micro-mini. Not only have the commercials been guilty of the usage but so have I and they picked it up from me.

Commercials! Please make the changes in your new listings.

Affiliate 'appenings

*Lyndall Owens
P. O. Box 288
Beaumont, TX 77704*



SWEET VI-O-LETS, TX — "Sporting With Violets," Betty Beasley, chairman. Winners: Best in show, Seedling 777, Betty Bryant; best in design, "Sporting With Violets," Laura Burr; best semi, Teen Craze, Patricia Champagne; best miniature, Tiny Texan, Carol Thomas; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Velma, Ann Miller.

SWEETWATER AVS, NY — "I Remember Grandma's Violets," Eleanor Hull, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Little Joy, Dawn Michelle, Rob's Lilliputian, best in show, Paumonak, Jane Weber; 2nd best in show, Optimara Molokai, 2nd best AVSA collection, Bud's Lite, Fantasy Sensation, Nortex's Yuletide Haven, Gloria Rutmayer; best miniature, Little Sapphire, best trailer, Foxwood Trail, Bill Pauwe; best semi, Candy Phillips, Jane Hiltz; best gesneriad, Columnea California Gold, Eleanor Hull; best design, Kerry Dicker.

AURORA BOREALIS AVS, AK — "A Decade of Violets," Amelia Walsh, chairman. Winners: Best AVSA collection, Irish Angel, Little Pro, Snuggles, best in show, best trailer, Tucson Trail, best miniature, Rythmn Rascal, sweepstakes (107 blue ribbons), Amelia Walsh; 2nd best in show, Little Katherine, best semi, Little Katherine, Venice Talley; best design, "Anniver-

sary Waltz," Vera Hurd; best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Rasberry Sundae, Virginia Gibson; best novice, Pixie Pink, Dr. John D. Walsh.

AVS OF GREATER NEW YORK — "Violets Sail the Seas," Rose & Joe Ghossn, cochairmen. Winners: best in show, Lady Baltimore, 2nd best in show, Emilie Savage, best gesneriad, S. Kaiserfriederich, best AVSA collection, Boca Grande, Desert Dawn, Kiwi Dazzle, sweepstakes, Marceline Koester; best trailer, Perk Up, Marianne Gershon; best semi, Snuggles, Joseph Kohn; best miniature, Precious Pink, Kay Rotando; sweepstakes (design, tie), Hilda Kohn and Helen Syzmko.

SHO-ME AV CLUB, MO — "African Violets, American Style," Rebecca Poindexter, chairman. Winners: best AVSA collection, Wrangler's Dixie Celebration, Sundown, Firelight, best design, "Let Freedom Ring," Bernadine Shipers; 2nd best AVSA collection, Snuggles, Topmost, Teen Craze, best semi, Snuggles, Carol Allinson; best in show, Optimara Michigan, 2nd best in show, Melanie J, best trailer, Ramblin' Lavender, best miniature, Skagit Lil Keepsake, best gesneriad, Episcia Hirsuta, sweepstakes, 38 blue ribbons, Johnnie Proctor.

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 4 & 5 NORTH CAROLINA — 1st Goldsboro AVS' display/sale, Berkeley Mall, Berkeley Blvd., Goldsboro. Both days, 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. For more information: Roberta Shukis, 3141 Barbour Mill Rd., Clayton, NC 27520.

NOVEMBER 4 - 6 MINNESOTA — AVS of Minnesota's 38th show/sale, "Violets In Wonderland," Signal Hills Mall, S. Robert St., W. St. Paul, during regular mall hours. Opal Hunter & Jude Neumann, cochairmen.

NOVEMBER 12 GEORGIA — Chattahoochee Valley AVS' show/sale, Columbus Square Mall, Macon Rd., Columbus. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public is invited. Polly Crutchfield, chairman.

JANUARY 21 TEXAS — The Beaumont AVS will sponsor a judging school at the Garden Center, Tyrrell Park from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bring brown bag lunch for break at noon. All interested parties can attend. Fee: \$7.00 for school and test; \$5 for attending. For more information contact Lyndall Owens, president, 409-866-8152.

FEBRUARY 11 & 12 MISSOURI — AVC of Greater Kansas City's show, "Violets in Convention City," Loose Park Garden Center, Kansas City. Both days, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Show chairman, Dennis Stevens; co-chairman, Charlotte Livingston.

FEBRUARY 12 - 14 FLORIDA — Violet Patch of Broward County's show/sale, "Symphony of Violets," Hollywood Mall, Hollywood, regular mall hours. Linda M. Marshall, show chairman.

FEBRUARY 24 - 26 FLORIDA — Tampa AVS' show/sale, "Violet Memories," Eastlake Square Mall, 5701 E. Hillsboro Ave., Feb. 24 & Feb. 25, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Feb. 26, 12:30 - 5:30 p.m. Public invited and no admission fee. Jo Anne Martinez, chairman.

FEBRUARY 25 & 26 TEXAS — Beaumont AVS' show/sale, "Weatherwise With African Violets," Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Feb. 25, 2 - 5 p.m.; Feb. 26, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Public is invited. For more information call 409-866-8152. Lyndall Owens, show chairman.

AVSA Building Fund

Nell-Sue Tyson
2030 E. Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80210

"You can move mountains.
There's nothing you can't do
With the right resources, and
The right guidance."

Prudential Life Ins. Co.

AVSA has come to the crossroads as to our building. We have a substantial nest egg of money contributed by you. That had to come first in planning for our building home. Everyone rejoices in that, and are most grateful to those who made this possible.

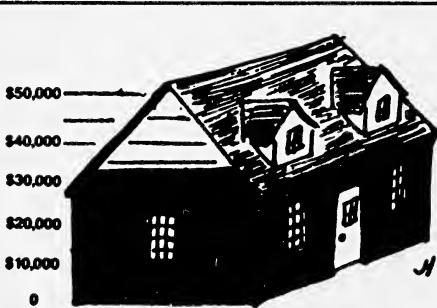
Many of you have asked — WHERE will the building be located; WHEN will it be built; HOW will it be built and other pertinent questions. Of course all of these matters are being studied very carefully by the Executive Board and others. However, many matters have to be considered. We have a lease on the present location for yet some time; properties are difficult to find, etc.

Our little home pictured in each issue of the AVM is just a token, and not to be thought that \$50,000 is our ultimate goal! That is a small part of a large building.

Meanwhile, members of AVSA need to make decisions of their own as to how much each can allocate to a very worthwhile cause — our permanent home.

We CAN have a new building fulfilling our needs if EVERYONE supports this cause.

Please send all of your creative ideas along with your next contribution.



Donations received from May 25 through June 25.
<i>June, 1988</i>
Baltimore AVC, MD
in lieu of judges expenses from Delaware AVS \$10.00
Catherine R. Myers, CA \$20.00
Delaware AVS
in memory of Emily Holtzman,
Baltimore, MD \$25.00
Delaware AVS
in lieu of judges expenses to Susan Hanna \$10.00
Mary J. Gibney, NY \$25.00
Don L. Thomburg, CA \$15.00
Windsor AVS, CT
in memory of Ruth Stevenson \$10.00
AVS of Canton, OH \$25.00
1st AVS of Spartanburg, SC \$10.00
Mrs. H.N. 'E' Hansen, PA
in lieu of beautiful needlepoint handwork sold to Ruby Cox, MO (\$22), Sue Ramser, TX (\$22), Mary Joyce Adams, CO (\$82.25) \$126.25
Miss Jane Wicht, MS \$5.00
Total for June - \$281.25
TOTAL FOR ALL DONATIONS - \$33,815.64

There were no copies of Pauline Bartholomew's book, Growing To Show awarded during the month of June, although three are available. Please see page 27 of the Sept./Oct., 1987 AVM issue.

During June three copies of Anne Tinari's book, Our African Violet Heritage, have gone to #47. Delaware AVS, #48. Mary J. Gibney, NY and #49. AVS of Canton, OH.

Donations received from June 25 through July 25.

<i>July, 1988</i>
MKO Dyn-O-Mite AVS, MO \$25.00
AVC of Burlington County, NJ
in lieu of speaker's fee by Flora Semen 25.00
Sundowners AVS, LA 25.00
New York State AVS, NY
in memory of Anne Dooley 15.00
Don L. Thomburg, CA 15.00
North Texas AV Judges Council
in memory of Peggy Kreska 10.00
Tuscaloosa County AVC, AL
in memory of Mrs. Elsie Dobbins 25.00
AVS of Greater New York, Inc., NY 25.00
Mrs. Jane Wolfe & Frances Kosiba, IA
in memory of Carol Anderson 25.00
Lake Shore AVS, IL 15.00
Martha R. Compton, IL 20.00
AVS of the Bahamas 100.00
Total for July - \$325.00

TOTAL FOR ALL DONATIONS - \$34,140.64

There were no copies of Pauline Bartholomew's book, Growing To Show awarded during the month of July, although the last three available copies may have been requested. Please see page 27 of the Sept./Oct., 1987 AVM issue.

The last copy of Anne Tinari's book, Our African Violet Heritage, has gone to MKO Dyn-O-Mite AVS of MO. This offering has been a huge success.

We would welcome another similar offering by a commercial member.

The Japanese Experience: Chapter Eight

Pauline Bartholomew
60 W. Fiesta Green
Port Hueneme, CA 93041

This year, my eighth trip to Japan, was different in that it was sponsored by private individuals. My scheduled visit for April, sponsored by the All Saintpaulia Club and Kamon Co., had been postponed until fall. Thus I was surprised to receive a call from Mrs. Shizue Maekawa saying that they would still like to have me come in the spring. She explained that some of my friends decided to sponsor my trip. My appreciation to the generosity of Mrs. Hisako Hidaka, Mrs. Shizue Maekawa, and Mrs. Miho Furukawa and the others contributing: the Tsudanuma ASC and individuals of the club, Ms. Endo, Yamada, Makimo, and Fujiki.

This turned out to be an all-play, no-work trip. I

didn't give a culture lecture or hold a judging school. They are doing very well on their own now. Instead, there were luncheons, parties, and excursions. A delightful luncheon with the Tsudanuma ASC group who presented me with an exquisite leather handbag; the treat of an overnight visit in the home of my interpreter, Noriko Shimomoto; and a luxurious dinner 26 stories above the city of Tokyo with my friend and mentor, Mrs. Koshiko Kawakami, her sister, Akiko Matsumoto, and Mr. Kazuo Horikoshi. The gratification of seeing, along side of Mrs. Kawakami's new book (probably her 15th or so), the newly published Japanese translation of my book, "Growing to Show," piled in stacks in the Taka-



TOP ROW: Mrs. Michiko Suga with 'Emilie Savage,' best in show; Mrs. Taeko Furukawa with 'Snow Rose,' 2nd best in show; Mrs. Hiroko Endo with 'Sweet Honey,' 3rd best in show. BOTTOM ROW: Mrs. Asako Suzuki with 'Dancing Trail,' best trailer; Mrs. Hisako Sakakibara with 'Disco Doll,' best miniature; and Mr. Shin Hiral of Kirin Brewery and Mr. Katsuhiko Fuwa of Kamon Co.

shimaya department store, and my amazement at the line of people waiting to have me autograph it.

Another highlight was a side trip via bullet train to Osaka and Kobe in the delightful company of Mrs. Maekawa, Mrs. Hidaka, and Mrs. Shimomoto. We were the guests of Mr. Tsunehisa Hanatani and Miss Oshige. The most memorable part of this trip was having lunch in the large, two-story, tile-roofed, wood-beamed and floored, elegant 200-year-old farm house inherited by Mr. Hanatani. It was located in the high foothills outside of Osaka and we were transported back in time as we viewed the moat, rock walls, entry gate, gardens, orchards, work and storage sheds, and the koi pond. Mr. Hanatani's new, modern greenhouse was located nearby.

The convention show at Takashimaya was the usual top-quality show we have come to expect of the Japanese growers. Flowergate (the merger company of Kirin Brewery and Kamon Co.) had an interesting display showing laboratory exhibits of propagation and cross-breeding and the latest results of their hybridizing program.

And then there were the experiences I could have done without. The 5:30 a.m. jolting and swaying of a 5.5 earthquake and the realization that I may as well stay in bed and ride it out. Where else do you go when you're on the 16th floor of a hotel? As a veteran of California earthquakes I can tell you that it still makes the adrenalin pump. And then the heart-sinking experience of realizing that my purse was missing as I was waiting at Narita Airport for my return flight to Los Angeles (don't even ask). It was the aforementioned gift handbag and it had a *lot* of cash in it (very dumb of me) plus my passport and the rest of my life's possessions. I may as well have boarded the plane without my clothes on. I couldn't have felt more naked. You can imagine the red tape at LAX without a passport or identification, plus the aborted plans to take the airport bus home. A collect phone call to Charlie (AVSA 2nd Vice President) and Ava Bollar in nearby Northridge with a plaintive plea, "How much do you love me?" They came and picked me up, fed me, commiserated with me, and put me to bed. Then the unlikely odds of Singapore Airlines calling me the next day and telling me that I could pick up my handbag at LAX, and the final miracle when I opened it to find that *nothing* was missing.

It was a great trip and definitely *not* a boring one.

Boyce Edens Research Fund

Marlene Brown
P.O. Box 38
Oreland, PA 19075



THANKSGIVING DAY is near

*How thankful we violet growers are
For the magnificent Saintpaulias
That grace our homes and shows
And make our world a place of beauty*

*How thankful we all are to each of you
Individual or Society
Who send Donations to BERF
Enabling super research for super plants*

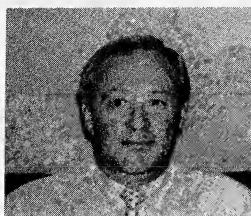
JOYOUS HOLIDAYS TO ALL

Donations received from May 25, 1988 through July 25, 1988	
Dixie Moonbeam AVS, Panama City, FL	\$10.00
Tampa AVS, FL	50.00
Windsor AVS, CT	
in memory of Ruth Stevenson	10.00
First AVS of Spartanburg, SC	10.00
New York City AVS, Inc., NY	10.00
MKO Dyn-O-Mite AVS, Joplin, MO	10.00
First Lakeland AVS, FL	
in memory of Gertrude Hagerer	15.00
Mid South AVS, Memphis, TN	10.00
Portland AVS, OR	
in memory of Dona Donahue	10.00
in memory of Grace Lester	10.00
club donation	25.00
Spring Branch AVC, Houston, TX	100.00
AVS of Montrose, CA	5.00
Lake Shore AVS, Hanover Park, IL	15.00
Quad Cities AVS, Davenport, IA	
in memory of Eileen Marine	15.00
Suburban AV Enthusiasts, S. Holland, IL	10.00

More Named Varieties for KC

Anne Jantzen, AVSA Awards Chairman, has announced three additional named varieties for the Kansas City, MO AVSA Convention in May, 1989. They are:

Maggies the Trinity, White Cameo and Dear Ellie.



Beginner's Forum

Hugh Mackey
299 Stockwood Drive
Woodstock, Georgia 30188

Go For The Gold ... I Mean Blue!

In order to win the Gold Medal in the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, Korea, the athletes had to be in the best physical condition possible. The same is true when entering a design in African violet shows. Your plant materials must be in the best condition as possible in order to endure the entire show, especially under conditions that may not be normal for the plant materials being used.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: Always use a slanting cut. Soak flowers overnight if possible. Crush and pound stems of all woody shrubs and plants, such as rhododendron, etc. For restoring fresh flowers which have wilted, place in cold water to which has been added one-half cup of vinegar to quart of water. If foliage has been removed from stems in arrangements, do not change water but add water as it evaporates, and spray flowers and foliage with fine spray of water daily. Recutting stems under water will prolong the life of flowers. Dipping stems into boiling water, opens the cellular structures to the passage of water.

How many times have you viewed a SUPER design with some or all of the plant material wilted? Did you enjoy viewing that particular design? Of course not! You probably felt sorry or embarrassed for the exhibitor because their plant material didn't hold up, when the exhibitor should have been embarrassed for spoiling a beautiful show by not properly conditioning his/her plant material.

Listed are plant materials that are often used in floral designs and a conditioning method for each:
ADAMS-NEEDLE (Yucca) - Split stems, condition overnight in shallow cold water.

AFRICAN VIOLETS - Cut with sharp knife, condition overnight in warm water to which a pinch of alum (per cup) has been added.

APPLE BLOSSOMS - Split stems and dip in hydrochloric acid. Soak in cold water.

ARTICHOKE - Condition overnight in cold water. Drys well, retaining color for dried flowers. Hang up-side down to dry.

AUCUBA - Split stems, condition overnight in first - warm water, then cool.

AZALEA-RHODODENDRON - Cut when 3-4 florets are open. Split woody stems, condition in cold water overnight. Spray flowers and foliage with fine spray mist.

BAMBOO - Submerge in cold water until crisp. Lift leaves, but leave stems in water until ready to arrange.

BARLEY - Cut after stems are strong enough to support grain heads. Condition overnight in cold water.

BELLS OF IRELAND - Submerge in cold water 1 to 2 hours. Lift and condition overnight in cold water. Will dry well also.

CALADIUM - Split stems, condition overnight in cold water. Submerge leaves completely for 1/2 hour in cold water, if wilting.

CAMELLIA - Cut when blooms are partly open. Insert stems in a box of wet cotton, spray with fine mist of cold water, cover and store at 45-50 degrees overnight.

CAST IRON PLANT (Aspidistra) - Submerge leaves in cold water about one hour then place leaves upright in a few inches of water overnight. Curves or lines can be achieved by rolling or tying leaves and submerging in water.

CAT TAILS - Gather early in season, spray with clear plastic or dip in clear shellac (or hairspray) immediately after cutting to prevent shatter.

CHERRY BLOSSOMS - Cut when only a few buds

open. Condition in cold water overnight or warm water, to hasten bloom.

CROTON - Wash in cold water, split woody stems, condition in cold water overnight. Roll, tie, submerge in water for interesting line and curves.

DOGWOOD - Split woody stems. Condition overnight with stems in warm water.

EUCALYPTUS - Split stems, condition overnight in cold water. Dries or glycerins well.

FALL FOLIAGE - Burn the tips of stems as soon as gathered. Place in deep water to which has been added 1 cup of vinegar per gallon of water.

FERN - Wrap in wet newspaper. Plomosus variety, refrigerate with stems out of water, stored at 48-50 degrees. Sprengeri variety, place stems in cold water, condition overnight. Maidenhair variety, submerge cut fronds in cold water 1-2 hours. Keep stems in cold water until used.

FUCHSIAS - Burn stems and dip in wood alcohol.

FORSYTHIA - Cut branches just beginning to bloom. Cut below or through the node. Place in cold water overnight. Forces well.

HOLLY - Submerge branches in water to remove residue. Keep berried holly in water in cool dark place. Do not use metal container.

MISTLETOE - Wrap in wax paper and keep refrigerated until ready to use. Otherwise, split stems and place in cold water overnight. Does not keep well in warm room.

DUSTY MILLER - Cut when 2-3 flowers open on each stem. Recut before conditioning overnight in warm water. (Stems dry quickly).

PHILODENDRON - Cut stems below node. Condition in cold water overnight.

POINSETTIA - Immediately after cutting, put stems in boiling water for 2-3 minutes or sear stems in flame, counting slowly to 15. Condition overnight in cold water.

PUSSYWILLOW - Cut when buds begin to swell or cut when 1/4 or 1/2 of branch is in bloom. Split stems and condition in cold water. Also keeps well out of water.

QUEEN ANNES LACE - Cut at any stage. Condition overnight in cold water, reaching almost to flower heads Avoid wetting flowers.

QUINCE - FLOWERING - Cut when 1/4 or less buds are open. Split woody stems and condition in cold water overnight. Buds continue to open indoors.

REDBUD - Cut budded branches before flowers

open. Split woody stems, put stems in hot water, 80-100 degrees. Spray daily with fine cold mist to prevent bud drop.

ROSEMARY - Avoid very young growth. Split stems. Condition in cold water overnight. Revive at 80-100 degrees hot water.

SCOTCH BROOM - Cut branches of desired length, submerge in water to freshen and clean. Split woody stems, condition in cold water until used. Excellent linear material, can be shaped for curves, etc.

SEDUM - Cut when cluster are 1/2 in flower. Condition overnight in cold water.

TULIPS - Cut in advanced bud stage. Condition by wrapping a dozen or so together in wet newspaper in tall container to keep stems straight in cold water up to almost flower heads.

WISTERIA - Cut in advanced bud stage. Split woody stems and condition in cold water overnight. Add 3 tsp. sugar to 2 tbsp. white distilled vinegar to bring to pH 4. Spray with fine cool mist.

PINE - Place in solution of 1 part water and 1 part wood alcohol for 5 minutes, then soak in cold water overnight.

TO PRESERVE LEAVES - Oak, Maple, Sweet Gum - Use 8 oz. glycerine to 2 qts. water or use Prestone antifreeze, instead of glycerine.

If you don't win the gold ... I mean blue, let's hope it was not because your plant materials were not properly conditioned. Just like the Olympic athlete, you have to practice, practice, practice, and who knows, maybe you too will win the gold ... I mean blue.

Future AVSA Convention Dates & Locations

1989 - Kansas City MO, May 22 - 28,
Westin Crown Center

1990 - Boston, MA, March 19 - 25,
Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers

1991 - Santa Clara, CA, April 23 - 28,
Doubletree Hotel

1992 - Columbus, OH, April 22 - 26,
Hyatt Regency

Registration Report

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood, FL 33019



The AVSA Board of Directors has authorized a few changes in how this committee will handle registrations.

1. As of January 1, 1989, the format and size of the registration form will be changed. The card will be replaced by a heavy sheet of bond paper, 8-1/2" x 11", and will be expanded to include all the different blossom and foliage types. This change will help to save money on postage, and a special envelope will no longer be required.

2. Effective January 1, 1989, parentage will be required on all requests for registration. According to the International Code of Nomenclature it is necessary to know the background of all plants that are registered.

3. Registrations and reservations will be accepted every month, including June and July.

Reservations are \$1.00 for a period of two years, effective from date received. Registrations are \$5.00.

Registrations

Lewis Fageley, Vergennes, VT

***Alew's Pinka-Roo** - Standard - Semidouble light pink. Medium green heart shaped foliage with slight red reverse. #6885 6/11/88

Cathy Cornibe, Santa Cruz, CA

***Little Al** - Semiminiature - Single dark blue with geneva edge. Variegated light green and white with lightly wavy foliage. #6886 6/15/88

***Little James** - Semiminiature - Semidouble fringed pink fantasy with light and dark purple flecks and geneva edge. Variegated with light pink, yellow and white, wavy foliage with red reverse. #6887 6/15/88

Norma Weir, Lake Quivira, KS

***Maggie's Be Good** - Standard - Single to semi-

double two tone pink sometimes with green top petal edges. Dark green quilted foliage with red reverse. #6888 6/16/88

Lillian Jarzab, Niagara Falls, NY

***Counsellor** - Standard - Semidouble two tone light purple w/darker lower lobes and light orchid back. Dark green plain, hairy foliage with lighter green reverse. #6889 7/9/88

***Lolly's Bobby** - Standard - Single deep purple with lighter petal backs. Dark green wavy foliage with lighter green reverse. #6900 7/9/88

Lenora Munk, Houston, TX

***Crimson Velvet** - Large - Single fringed fuchsia pansy. Dark green plain foliage with red reverse. #6891 7/11/88

***First Houston** - Large - Single frilled edge fuchsia red pansy. Medium green with light green reverse, plain foliage. #6892 7/11/88

Mixed Emotions - Large - Semidouble fringed white with pink bottom petals and green tops. Medium green wavy foliage with lighter green reverse. #6893 7/11/88

***Pink Rosette** - Large - Double fringed pink. Dark green plain foliage with slight red reverse. #6894 7/11/88

Patt Harris, Santa Clara, CA

***Patt's Cameo** - Semiminiature trailer - Double fringed cameo pink two tone with coppery upper lobes. Medium green, plain, round foliage. #6895 7/13/88

***Sweet Amy Sue** - Semiminiature trailer - Double pale pink with blue fantasy and green edges. Medium green quilted foliage with light green leaf backs. #6896 7/13/88

***Tiger Trail** - Standard trailer - Double bright

fuchsia with pale pink petal backs. Variegated, quilted, glossy foliage. #6897 7/13/88

Marie Beeman, Healdsburg, CA

***Marie's Lady Lillian** - Large - Double light blue star. Light green, cream and pink variegated, quilted, wavy foliage. #6898 7/26/88

***Marie's Little Girl** - Large - Semidouble fringed two tone medium blue with some lighter spots near center. Dark green and rose variegated, plain, quilted foliage. #6899 7/26/88

***Marie's Pretty Corrine** - Large - Double fringed two tone light and pale blue. Dark green, rose and cream variegated plain, quilted, fringed foliage. #6900 7/26/88

Registration Corrections

#3835 - **DEE DEE** - Please change registration number to 2900

#3836 - **SPECKLED PLUM** - Please change registration number to 2901

****Alice Ann** - Standard - Double ruffled dark orchid with darker eye. Plain, quilted foliage. #4656 12/5/81 Maas

****Catherine Hunt** - Large - Single light blue. Plain quilted foliage. #4658 12/5/81 Maas

****Chinese Porcelain** - Large - Semidouble white star. Blossoms may be variable. May lack tufts and may occasionally have pink blush in the eye. Plain quilted foliage. #4657 12/5/81 Chris Leppard

****Gaetano** - Standard - Semidouble fringed medium pink with dark eye. Plain pointed foliage. #4659 12/5/81 Maas

Name Reservations

Joen Gehr, Land O' Lakes, WI

***Donnybrook** * Double Vision * Dream Weaver * Houdini * Live Music * Magic Dragon * Narcissus * Pagan Rhythm * Prime Time * Short Circuit * Slave Bracelet * Superstition * Trillium *

Judson Hayes, Jacksonville, FL

***Papa's Jud** ***Papa's Nite Bloomer** ***Papa's Pamela** ***Papa's Princess** *

Patt Harris, Santa Clara, CA

***Dresden Doll** ***Edee** ***Mission City** ***Pacific Pearl**

Marie Beeman, Healdsburg, CA

***Marie's Adam Christopher** ***Marie's Brandon Shane** ***Marie's Jason Michael** ***Marie's Matthew Manuel** ***Marie's Michael Alan** ***Marie's Pacific Sunrise** ***Marie's Shannon Paul** *

Evelyn Gould, Hemet, CA

***Lyn's Honey Bun** *

Joan Watts, Colo, IA

***Deejay's Pink Swirl** ***Deejay's Slashed Wonder** *

Registration Renewals

Patt Harris, Santa Clara, CA

***Yo Yo Trail** *

You Can Host An AVSA Convention

Are you one of those lucky people who live in an area of our country which is blessed with many points of special interest? Are there places of special historical interest and things which you would want to see as a visitor to the area?

Is your area easily accessible by air and by car?

Do you have a nucleus of good workers in your area?

If so, have you ever considered hosting an AVSA Convention & Show?

Hosting a convention is lots of fun. It is a time of sharing ideas and talents and helping one another. You'll be surprised just how many new and valued friendships are formed through these activities.

We welcome your questions regarding hosting an AVSA Convention & Show.

If this sounds interesting, please write to your Convention Director for more information:

DoDe Whitaker
2085 Leeward Lane
Merritt Island, FL 32953

Send all Coming Event notices to:

Jane Birge
P.O. Box 1401
Beaumont, Texas 77704

DINING - KANSAS CITY STYLE ...

David Buttram
P.O. Box 193
Independence, MO 64051

"Not all the best restaurants are in Kansas City, just the top four or five," wrote author and food critic Calvin Trillin.

Having eaten in and written about the finest restaurants around the world, Trillin's objectivity should be beyond reproach. But it should also be remembered that Trillin was born and raised in Kansas City. In any case, he is justifiably proud of the tasty victuals served in Kansas City.

Below are listed a few of my favorites. My simple criterion was: Where do I take friends or family for a enjoyable meal?

Let's start with steak; after all that is what Kansas City is known for. Several steak houses used to exist across the area — just a few remain now. The Hereford House is close to the convention hotel and serves excellent steaks. My choice, however, is the Golden Ox where tender, aged steaks are always cooked to a turn and the atmosphere is old Kansas City and old money.

Several ethnic restaurants are sure to hit the spot. For Italian food, your best choices are either Italian Gardens or V's Restaurant. Each is family owned and operated, using original recipes from grandmothers.

Mexican food lovers should not miss Manny's, Dos Hombres (George Brett's favorite) or Jose Migueles, where the sopapillas melt in your mouth.

Over the past 15 years there has been a tremendous influx of Chinese into the area. As a natural result, we now have many Chinese restaurants to choose from. Most have menus which are amalgams of Cantonese, Mandarin and Szechwan cuisines which have been appropriately modified to accommodate American palates. Imperial Palace, The You Family Hunan and N. C. Chow's are three favorites. The small intimate House of Toy is quick, inexpensive and good. Master Chef Victor Lim eats, sleeps and drinks the art of Polynesian cooking at the Kona Kai.

What about seafood in landlocked Missouri? Not to worry. Visit S & J Oyster Co., Capt'n Jeremiah

Tuttle's, and the Savoy Grill. The latter is an 85-year-old restaurant that maintains an impeccable reputation with fresh fish and USDA Prime beef. The interior is one of the finest remaining examples of that period. My favorite is their Trout Almondine. Super!

A visit to the Peppercorn Duck Club will be remembered as dining at its best. Parchment baked salmon or the house specialty of spit roasted duck with a wide selection of sauces precede a visit to the calorie rich "Ultra Chocolatta Bar." Sure it's rich, but you can diet when you get home.

Sip cold apple cider while waiting for seating at Stephenson's Old Apple Farm. This really was an old apple farm selling fresh vegetables and fruit. Now only the orchards of peaches and apples remain. The menu offers steaks, chicken, fish and meal-size salads. All are prepared in a home-style way. My favorites include their thick ham steaks and smoked brisket. Be sure to try their green rice and apple fritters with homemade apple butter. They are habit forming.

The art deco exterior of Winstead's dates back to the early 1940s. The mainstay of the menu is a slightly crisp hamburger that Trillin insists is the best hamburger in the United States. Along with thousands of Kansas Citians who stopped there after a football game or a date as teenagers, I think Trillin is right.

Kansas City's *pièce de résistance* is its barbecue. Ask 10 K.C. natives for their favorite barbecue restaurant and you will get 15 answers and they're all right.

Again, turning to Calvin Trillin, "Arthur Bryant's Barbeque is the best restaurant in the world." Wow, what a statement to make for a man



who knows that there are dozens of barbecue restaurants in the city and who has eaten in the best around the world.

Arthur Bryant responded to Trillin's accolade: "Naw, this is just an old grease house."

Having eaten at Bryant's over 30 years, I think Trillin's appraisal comes closer to the truth. Every U.S. President since John F. Kennedy and countless would-be office seekers find their way to Bryant's for the carefully cooked/smoked beef, pork, ham and ribs with the unique, slightly tangy sauce.

The Kansas City Star warns: "Beware timid eaters. Anyone who doesn't expect to pig out at Bryant's is missing the point. Voluminous beef, pork or ham sandwiches are easily a meal for two. Crisp, greasy fresh french fries are heaven — or as close as potatoes can come."

Ruby's Soul Food is just a couple of blocks away. Yes, there is a lady named Ruby and she cooks ham and beans, greens, corn bread and other "down

home" food. This is not *haute cuisine*, but it sure is good.

Kansas City is home to Dixon's Chili Parlour. Before, during and after his administration, President Harry Truman loved Dixon's unique method of making chili. Cooked, crumbly beef is ladled over one or two ladles of brown beans. Then the customer seasons to taste from the condiments on the table. My favorite is a "spread" which is three hot tamales ('hot' is the operative word here) smothered with beans and beef, then sprinkled liberally with red chili powder and vinegar which is from pepper-filled bottles.

The beautiful Crown Center where the Convention will be held has many excellent dining facilities within the complex. Fine dining, coffee shops, fast food shops — they are all just steps away from your room. But for the adventuresome, I hope you will sample our restaurants and Get The Royal Treatment.

Bon Appetite.



Sandy Stubbings of the Lake Shore African Violet Society of Illinois put together this doll house as part of the educational exhibit for a show. Sandy used tiny pots of artificial violets on a flower cart, on tables and hanging in windows with signs in each room giving ideas and window exposures.



YOUR LIBRARY

L. T. Ozio, Jr.
1009 Ditch Avenue
Morgan City, LA 70380

A most vital segment of AVSA membership is our group of hybridizers and commercial growers. The hybridizers are constantly seeking new, different, and improved cultivars to offer the growers of America's favorite house plant. Who knows? Maybe the yellow African violet is not too far away! And the commercials do an exceptional job of stocking, shipping, and offering all of the latest aids for growing our beloved African violets. The hybridizers and commercials are special and deserve your continued support.

I would like to address the many hybridizers and commercial growers who send slides of their new introductions to Ray Pittman to be included in his annual Saturday luncheon program; one that is very well attended and a favorite of everyone there. What I have to suggest to the regular contributors of slides certainly can be expressed to other hybridizers who, up until now, haven't taken advantage of this wonderful opportunity to get photos of their new introductions before the public. You readers can get into the act, too! You may know certain hybridizers personally or through membership in your affiliate. Why not drop them a line of encouragement to send in slides of their new introductions for next year's season.

Ray's entertaining slide presentation at Convention is a wonderful opportunity for hybridizers to receive some very important exposure where hundreds of viewers whet their appetites for the beautiful plants being shown. In order to encourage all hybridizers to photograph their plants to best advantage we offer a few suggestions:

1. Before taking the actual shot, try out different colors for your background so that your plant will show up to better advantage.

2. A close-up of your blossoms gives the viewers an excellent idea of the type of blossom and the color is sharper.

3. Viewers are also interested in the whole plant. Try photographing your whole plant as it is

growing in its pot.

4. In photographing your plant, make an attempt to have the plant free of any entry cards, ribbons, or awards that may be part of an exhibit in a show.

5. Using the best light (natural or artificial) greatly improves the picture and displays the plant to best advantage.

6. A very brief accurate description of the plant and its blossoms is most helpful in showing the slides of the plants. Growers are interested in blossom types and colors as well as type of leaves.

7. By all means photograph your new introductions and send them to Ray Pittman early enough to be included in his presentation.

The slide program from Convention is then used to compose the slide program offered to AVSA members through the AVSA Library. It is always one of the most frequently requested programs we offer.

Since the Orlando Convention, our Canadian liaison for the AVSA Library Committee, Mrs. Betty Tapping, has handled requests for the two Florida Convention slide programs and we plan to add copies of the slide programs from the Dallas Convention, namely, "New Rays of Hope" and "A Grand Reunion" to her listings. Those of you living in Canada may request the two new programs as well as the two Florida ones by following the usual AVSA Library rules, but sending the request and your check to: Mrs. Betty Tapping, #1512-511, The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 1G5 Canada. The programs will be mailed by Mrs. Tapping and you are requested to return them to her. This offer applies to the four slide programs, "The Florida Experience," "Orange Blossom Specials," "New Rays of Hope," and "A Grand Reunion." Mrs. Tapping will handle and process requests for only the above mentioned slide programs. Should our Canadian neighbors wish to request other slide program titles, a separate request and separate check, made out to AVSA, must

be sent to the AVSA Office, P. O. Box 3609, Beaumont, Texas 77704. This service to our Canadian neighbors is just another way to offer AVSA Library slide programs to them for their enjoyment as well as the instruction of the affiliates. We encourage all members and affiliates around the world to use AVSA Library materials as part of their annual programs.

It was decided by the AVSA Board of Directors at the Dallas Convention to consolidate the requests, shipments, and returns of all AVSA Library materials with the activities of the AVSA Office in Beaumont, Texas by September 1, 1988. Library Committee Assistant, Bob L. Green, has discontinued handling requests for Library materials.

During the years that Bob has handled the activities of the AVSA Library programs and packets he has served with the utmost professionalism, willingness, and genuine concern for the members and affiliates who came in contact with him. He served AVSA, the AVSA Library, and me as the Librarian with distinction and compassion. He has my personal gratitude for the businesslike manner in which he conducted his office, and I am proud to have worked with him.

I further ask that you keep your requests for programs coming into the AVSA Office. Let me hear from you if you have any suggestions for programs or if you wish to donate slides to AVSA.

Hermann Holtkamp Gedächtnis Münze

*Anne Jantzen, Awards Chairman
2725 Katrina Way
Mountain View, CA 94040*

The Holtkamp Greenhouses, Inc., hybridizers and growers of the famous Optimara® and Rhapsodie® African violet varieties, announce the Hermann Holtkamp Gedächtnis Münze (commemorative coin) award. This award will be available to the African Violet Society of America, Inc., during its annual convention.

The award has been established in memory of Hermann Holtkamp, Sr., the founder of the Holtkamp Greenhouses and original creator of the Rhapsodie® and Optimara® varieties. Hermann Holtkamp, Sr., died on February 24, 1988, in West Germany, at the age of 84, leaving it to his family to develop new and better African violet varieties.

To commemorate their father and his lifetime commitment to the African violet, Rudolf, Reinhold, and Hermann Holtkamp, Jr., present this perpetual award to the African Violet Society of America, Inc.:

The awards are to be given to the exhibitors growing the best blue ribbon collections of any combination of three Optimara® and/or Rhapsodie® varieties (must be same type and size).

The entries must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for at least three months.

The collections will be judged and prizes

awarded by the African Violet Society of America, Inc. representatives.

The entries must be registered with the African Violet Society of America, Inc.

The Hermann Holtkamp awards consist of the "Hermann Holtkamp Gedächtnis Münze" and six prizes: three to be awarded in the amateur division and three in the commercial.

Highest Award: Hermann Holtkamp, Sr. Gedächtnis Münze

The commemorative coin will be the highest award and will be given to the exhibitor with the highest scoring collection in either the amateur or commercial division.

Amateur Division

First Award: Ribbon and \$300

Second Award: Ribbon and \$200

Third Award: Ribbon and \$100

Commercial Division

First Award: Ribbon and \$300

Second Award: Ribbon and \$200

Third Award: Ribbon and \$100

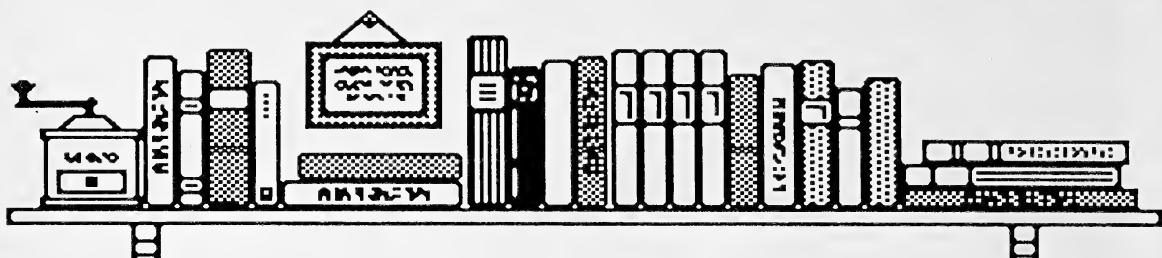
These awards will commence at the 1989 Kansas City Convention and continue into perpetuity.



"Hill Country" Dish Garden

Best in Class, Dallas 1988 AVSA Convention designed by Dea V. Johnson, San Antonio, TX.
Contains: sensia, mountain laurel, Texas ebony, juniper, creeping fig, pilea, maidenhair fern and African violets, 'Tidbits' and 'Bitsy.'

BOOK REVIEWS



New African Violet Book ... Truly A Masterpiece

*Anne Tinari
AVSA Immediate Past President*

Have you ever envisioned a book written exclusively about our favorite plant the African violet and other members of the Gesneriaceae Family? A book to include everything you ever wanted to know about African violets and proper factual information needed to grow healthy flowering plants. Such a fascinating book entitled **AFRICAN VIOLETS: GIFTS FROM NATURE**, by the well-known author Melvin J. Robey, recently published, is now available.

Written in a delightful manner, easy to read in clear familiar terms to follow up with accurate, scientific explanation when appropriate. This beautiful new book is truly a textbook in every sense of the word with an underlying appreciation of the author's true love and understanding of America's favorite houseplant. Mr. Robey has captured the essence and joy of growing this plant. He relates to the botany of the plants and its heritage, having traveled to more than six countries seeking facts with authenticity. Maps are included, where each of the species were discovered. All 20 species are carefully described and some photographs shown.

The first cultivars on the market are listed and a careful outline history of all the events that have occurred resulting in the great phenomena of its growth in less than 100 years since its discovery are documented.

This exciting textbook has a beautiful color cover with 42 pictures in color, 150 black and white photos, many illustrations and a glossary of 250 words is included. The illustrations of leaf and blossom classifications look so real and are done in such detail,

they seem to come alive.

Again and again one is tempted to refer to the many charts plus an abundance of tables used to clarify key topics accompanied with logical explanations. A complete chapter is devoted to the Gesneriaceae Family describing in detail many of its popular members with photos, ending the chapter with an excellent pronunciation guide of the beauties described.

So often we fail in an attempt to control environmental factors such as stale air which directly affects prosperous growth. Tips and good growing habits are explained throughout the text and factions pertaining to humidity, proper air circulation and temperature are explained with enlightening detail. Study the illustrations of the most common pests that attack the African violet. Read about the control and use of pesticides and learn how to diagnose and select the proper pesticide and how to use it when trouble strikes.

There are individual chapters that deal with proper methods of watering, potting soil and the great importance of sufficient light. Leaf propagation and plant separation are not only described but illustrated step by step. Pots of different types and sizes are also shown with advantages and disadvantages stated. Both constant and periodic feeding is explained.

The book reveals the fascinating art of hybridizing your own plants to produce seed and describes the method of ripening and sowing seeds to produce vigorous young seedlings and the proper steps to a mature flowering plant.

Everyone of the 16 chapters holds a wealth of information. The eight page glossary defines many of the terms used throughout the book. I find the index clear and precise. I assure you, this book will not gather dust on your bookshelf. The reading is delightful and the personal knowledge gained will enrich your understanding of violet culture.

This is one book you cannot afford to be without. I can't imagine a more appropriate gift to someone who takes great pleasure in growing African violets than this beautiful informative textbook. Auto-

graphed copies are available by writing the author, Mr. Melvin J. Robey, P. O. Box 4742, Palm Desert, CA 92261. The cost of the book is \$45 plus \$2.50 (\$4.50 for international orders) for shipping and handling. The book is ready for immediate shipping.

The African Violet Society of America, Inc., salutes Mr. Robey for his patience, knowledge, skill and years of researching every important aspect of America's favorite houseplant to bring us this masterpiece.

The Mail Order Gardener ... Sure To Please All

Bob L. Green
Publications Chairman

The Mail Order Gardener by Hal Morgan
Produced by Steam Press, Watertown, MA
Published by Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., NY
1988 Library of Congress ISBN 0-06-096241-0

At \$12.95, this over-sized (8-1/2" x 11"), soft-cover book of 287 pages is a steal. This is no ordinary book; in fact, it is more like a complete library for green-thumbers and would-be green-thumbers. Organized by subject, the book clearly maps out the sources for just about anything of interest to the gardener, from exotic and common seeds to bonsai and common plants to garden ornaments and greenhouses to garden magazines to plant societies.

Of particular interest, most of the more than 1,500 mail order sources list not only the address, catalog price, and Mr. Morgan's graphic description of merchandise, but, in most cases, also a telephone number. Sources are listed for flower-arranging supplies, dish garden plants, hard to find houseplants, African violets and other gesneriads, along with many, many more plants, supplies, tools, books, etc. This book will give you a source — right at your fingertips — for fulfilling your green-thumb wishes. The book is also beautifully illustrated with hundreds of nineteenth-century wood cuts and line drawings. A typical entry is:

"The Bonsai Farm
1827 Hwy. 87 South, Adkins, TX 78101
Telephone: 512-649-2109
Catalog price: \$1
A nice selection of pre-bonsai starter plants,

such as Bahama black olive, bald cypress, and Chinese elm, offered in an illustrated catalog equally rich with tools, supplies, and bonsai containers. Dozens of shears, graving chisels, grafting knives, and specialized root and knob cutters are pictured."



Amelia Walsh, show chairman for Aurora Borealis AVS' 10th anniversary show, "A Decade of Violets," is shown with her best in show plant, Tucson Trail. Amelia also won best miniature, Rythmn Rascal, best trailer, best collection, Little Pro, Irish Angel and Snuggles, and sweepstakes with 107 blue ribbons.



Green Crystal

BARBARA ELKIN

Texas Daydream



QUESTION BOX



*Mrs. John Hayes
9 Cobblestone Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002*



Question: In potting my plants for show, I find it very difficult to foil the pot for exhibition. Why does this have to be done?

Answer: This is an age old question, and I suspect that African violet growers will never have nimble enough fingers to do this job well, especially around the larger plants. The original reason was and probably continues to be, uniformity — in addition to eye appeal to the viewer of the show. Depending on your table covers, all pots covered with the same foil, or same color pot, is much more attractive. I personally find the same color pot as much more restrictive. I can remember a time when Union Products put out boxes of pots in ALL colors, including red. Our club, 20 years ago, used to buy pots in large numbers to give members a break in price. Like many clubs, we have several people on fixed incomes and to ask them to buy another color, in addition to what they had, was really not fair. Soil and additives can be expensive enough to these people. I recall in the Shows and Judges column, a significant discussion on this very problem. Emilie Savage agreed that the plant could be put into another pot of required color as long as the pot was put within the pot and NO soil entered into the transaction, which then would be DOUBLE potting.

I find that the easiest way to foil is to take a pot of exact size and sit down and make a pot cover, leaving just a little more at the top that can be tucked into the top of the rim of your pot. Slide onto pot at show time and tuck around rim. Try this — I think you will find it quite easy.

Question: In the fall I have a problem with moisture in my cellar from the rains and it seems that nearly every spring and fall I have trouble with one fungus problem or another; usually it is mildew. I do not like to spray with any chemical at all. Can you give me any suggestions?

Answer: This is one of those questions that seems to be asked fairly regularly; this one and the dreaded thrips one... Wouldn't it be wonderful to cure all without chemicals? I suppose it could be done by a most careful individual who has a climate-controlled home. I have been careful at times in our family life on the subject of spraying. We used to "birth" puppies in a cellar recreation room, and now it is a bedroom when the children are home from college. I, too, have a humid cellar and must be very cautious regarding moisture. I found, that with spraying, I can control the mildew problem if I am very aware of the atmosphere of my plant area. For many years I have been trying to be careful to not crowd my plants in the fall and spring. I also place saucers of pure sulphur, two or three to a two foot by four foot tray, and this seemingly has helped my problem. There are some very basic rules that can assist, but not guarantee, help with this fungus disease problem. Many of you have heard these, but I hasten to alert you to the fact that we have many hundreds of new members each year, and for them some of the basic information gleaned out of this column can be most beneficial. We have a fine Beginner's Forum, but it addresses only six subjects a year.

Basic helps to prevent problems are, good circulation of air; a fan may be needed during damp months or even a dehumidifier. I use TWO in my cellar level in spring and fall, and actually we have had the worse summer on record for heat AND humidity, so it was used almost all summer. In addition to the above helping with air circulation, you can purposefully assist by NOT crowding plants; give them plenty of room so that air can indeed circulate among them. In addition to high humidity, high temperatures will help these spores to proliferate. If you have a tendency to over water with a combination of heavy soil, you are possibly invit-

ing problems year round. Some take their plants off wicks during times of high humidity; I have never found that necessary, but some swear by it. If you are wick watering, be very careful to carry out a good leaching program. At least once a month, take your plant off the wick reservoir and pour plain water through and through. If you are using soil that is very old and has been sitting around inviting all that lurks in your plant area; or you are using unsterilized soil, this could also just add those spores that produce fungus problems, right to your plant when you repot. Once you have identified a persistent problem, all of the above will help you, but you must do a significant fall housecleaning. All your plant stands and perhaps the walls around your plants must be cleaned well to get rid of any hidden spores just waiting for an opportunity to attack your plants. I have used Lysol liquid for all and the spray for the light fixtures. Others have purchased Physan 20. Hope this has helped you with your drafeted fungus visitation.

Question: Years ago I attended one of your shows in Windsor and someone gave me a soil recipe, one part soil, one part perlite and one part vermiculite. I have recently had many problems and wonder if this soil makeup is my problem?

Answer: Because I could economically pick up a phone and chat with this lady from an adjoining state, I did so. Yes, that old soil recipe was most definitely a problem. She had received that some 15-18 years ago. Remember when we started to lighten soil mixtures and that was before the advent of WICKING! She had placed her plants on wicks several months ago and they were literally rotting out. In addition, she followed that old, but NOT acceptable adage — more is better. In effect she had more than a third soil, because she had run out of the other two components and was causing quite a soggy mess. We have surely found that our beloved African violet does indeed like to be wet all the time, but only if its soil mixture is light. Since I first communicated with this woman, three months ago, she has repotted all her plants and has seen marvelous results. I have the pictures to prove it.

Question: I have been given many small square pots. Can I use them for my plants? Can I exhibit my miniatures in them?

Answer: Age old question? Of course you can use them for whatever you wish. There is no rules that would preclude your use of these "freebies" in any area of your growing. There are those that feel that

square pots do not shape up a plant as well, but quite frankly many of us have had no problem. You will find many a commercial that will use square pots because it is easier to set them out in rows on a bench. I had a dearly beloved friend who used them all of the time. Many of our club members would donate to her their square pots when they repotted newly purchased plants out of them. I use square pots for propagation because I can line up a whole bunch of square pots under a light ever so much quicker.

Question: I had a lovely semiminiature plant that was disqualified from entering a show because it was supposedly oversized. The Classification person took my plant and pulled up the leaves gently and measured it. It was 9" across instead of 8". Is that the correct way to measure? I say no; other club members say yes.

Answer: You are most CORRECT and they are very wrong. Many plants have leaves that do not grow straight out from the rim of the pot. You are to measure a plant as you see it! An 8" hoop should go over, up and down, WITHOUT touching the leaves.

Question: I am looking for an old plant that was dear to me when I first started growing plants. How do I find this variety?

Answer: I learned many years ago, as you may remember, that I cannot assist our members in looking for specific varieties. That would be all that this column would do. This adventure takes time and patience, and could take money. If you are well heeled, you can take out your November magazine and start calling all the commercials in your area, or wherever. Realistically, mail inquiries to the same group would be beneficial. You also might try reading several issues of commercial ads; there are always commercials that comment on carrying the "oldies," and they would be your best bet.

Question: I have received several lists from commercials and a few of them refer to "rooted clumps." What does that mean?

Answer: See how we take terminology for granted? How would a newer member, not belonging to a local club, ever know what this means? Some commercials, few by number, do sell you a mother leaf with all the many babies attached. In otherwords, the leaf cutting that they put down for propagation has put up the many "infants" that it will, and they will sell you that, which can be a good bargain. If you have difficulties in separating plantlets at this early stage of growing, then this might NOT be a

good purchase for you.

Question: Shortly after purchasing plants at a local greenhouse, the centers of those plants developed an orange-like appearance to the center leaves. A member of my club felt that it was over-fertilizing, but I felt that I had not. What causes this and what can I do?

Answer: I tried to get back to this individual quickly, as this problem cannot be allowed to continue. I wish it were possible to contact you all quickly, or for that matter, to answer each and every letter. With the volume of questions that come into this home, that is just not possible. I do answer as many as possible, but there will be many of you that do not hear from me. Most magazines answer only those questions printed. I try for that to be far from the case with this column.

This grower herself did not appear to be over-fertilizing, but she did not repot the plant when she bought it. Many commercial greenhouses have very rich soil with many added nutrients to force plants to grow and bloom quickly. I feel that this is the best reason for repotting any plant into your soil which you have proven fits your personal environment. Pouring warm water over this plant will help to dissolve these orange crystals and to leach out the soil of excess fertilizer salts. Repot! If you have a similar condition after growing for some time in your own soil, you have probably overfertilized. You should wash with warm water as directed and continue to feed at a low rate; do NOT stop fertilizing once you have leached and/or repotted. If you are using a soilless mix, as many are, your plant could then become deficient of food as these mixes offer little if any nutrients.

Question: I received a plant with the name *Hypocyrtia wettsteinii* and a friend told me that all *hypocyrtas* have been reclassified as *Nematanthus*. Can you help me to identify this plant please?

Answer: I knew immediately that this plant indeed had been changed to *Nematanthus wettsteinii*. I grow it mainly to use its foliage for design entries. This change occurred many years ago and confused a lot of us less knowledgeable other gesneriad growers. Out of curiosity I referred to my "bible" on gesneriads, *The Miracle Houseplants* by Virginie and George Elbert. I found, that yes, a major change had occurred several years ago, but the above writer's friend was not entirely correct. There are 20 identified *hypocyrtia* varieties, only eight being

grown by hobbyists. Two were reclassified in the *Allopectus* family and five to the *Nematanthus* group, leaving ONE that is still an *Hypocyrtia* — *H. selloana*.

Question: The closing question comes from ME! How can I better serve you with this column? I try to include a variety of topics — judging, miniatures, gesneriads, pest problems, just plain old growing problems. Are there other areas that interest you?? If so let me know, by phone, mail, boat, etc. Seriously, drop me a note and let me know if I can be of better service to you. Have Happy Holidays!

Commercial Awards For KC Convention

*Anne Jantzen, Awards Chairman
2725 Katrina Way
Mountain View, CA 94040*

The Kansas City Convention Hosts are providing the following awards for the Commercial Division:

- \$300 - Best Display Table
- \$200 - Second Best Display Table
- \$100 - Third Best Display Table
- \$ 50 - Best New Introduction
from Display Tables
- \$ 50 - Best New Introduction
from Specimen Plants Section

Plant Registrar Needs Information on Species

Marilyn Goldstein, Chairman of Plant Registration and International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants, would like to accumulate as much information as possible on species. If you have any information please contact Marilyn at 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood, FL 33019.

Basic Leaf Questions

Bill Johnson
1221 West River Road #A2
Elyria, OH 44035

Why has the African violet become so popular as a house plant? First, there are the obvious reasons. It blooms continuously indoors and is the *only* plant in all of nature to do so. It produces an endless variety of beautiful blooms and attractive foliages. Yet, I venture the opinion that the African violet would never have spread as it has were it not for the fact that *it propagates so easily*. When one discovers that raising new violets from leaf cuttings is as easy as eating pie, many become "hooked" for life!

A friend gave the wife of Lyndon Lyon a leaf of an African violet to propagate. She placed the leaf in a glass of water. Seeing this single leaf take root caused Lyndon to become "interested right away," and go on to become one of the most prolific violet hybridizers in the world. Similar stories have happened countless thousands of times to violet hobbyists everywhere. It is when we begin to grow our own new plants that we become deeply interested in African violets. Once the "secret of the leaf" is learned we are on our way with no limits in sight.

Whether you are growing a few violets at home or propagating millions of them in a large commercial greenhouse you still do it — one leaf at a time. It is interesting to compare some of the methods used to grow new violets from leaf cuttings. There is wide variance of technique and considerable difference of opinion as to what works the best. Let's try to answer some basic leaf questions, and perhaps dispel a few popular myths.

WHICH LEAF WORKS THE BEST? There is common agreement among all growers that old leaves are not the best to use. Old leaves take considerably longer to produce new plants and should be avoided whenever possible. In some instances, very old leaves will stubbornly refuse to produce any new plants at all. It is generally agreed that "middle-age" (mature but not old) leaves are the best to use. This is no doubt true when all things are considered, but it is a fact that the younger leaves nearer the crown of the plant actually produce the faster results. Some years ago I ordered leaves from a new source and

received some very small leaves that had come right out of the crown of young plants. The leaves were no more than the width of a quarter in size. I was deeply disappointed and very doubtful if they would root and live, much less produce any new plants. To my surprise, those leaves all produced healthy plantlets in only five weeks time, instead of the six to eight weeks I had come to expect. But taking leaves from the crown of a plant mars its beauty, and while these small leaves may root and produce faster, they are too fragile for regular production. If you offer me my choice of any leaf from your violet, I will take one from right below a new bloom stem. These work the best for me.

HOW LONG SHOULD THE PETIOLE BE?

Some hobbyists leave the petiole nearly two inches long. The longer I have grown violets, the shorter I have cut the petiole. My preference is to leave the petiole no more than 1/2 inch long. The giant greenhouse growers all leave only a stub. If you leave too long a petiole, it has a tendency to bend and grow quite crooked instead of remaining straight. There is also the tendency in long petioles for the leaf to continue to grow and expand instead of producing timely new plantlets.

HOW SHOULD THE CUT BE MADE?

There is a widely held dogma that you should always cut the petiole at an angle. The reasons given for this are that this will produce more plantlets and cause them to come up from the front side of the leaf instead of the backside. In my own experience, I have not found it to be of any consequence whether the petiole is cut at a slant or straight across. To the new grower I would offer this timely word of caution. If you do choose to cut the petiole at an angle, then be sure it is only a *slight angle*. There is no question that cutting the petiole at a very severe angle will result in poorer results. I know of a rather large greenhouse that learned this lesson the hard way. It turned out that very few of the leaves that were stuck for a large Valentine's Day production produced any new plants. After that expensive mistake this grower cuts

all petioles straight across so there is no chance some unsupervised worker will overdo the cut angle again.

The really big surprise is the fact that the largest commercial growers who produce many millions of violets each year do not cut the petiole at all. The workers who stick the leaves grasp the petiole between the thumb and forefinger and *break* it off near the base of the leaf, leaving only a stub of petiole. The leaf is then stuck in moist soil with one third of the leaf buried in the soil. No, burying the leaf in the soil does not cause it to rot. Planting the leaf in the soil this way supports it upright in the tray throughout the growing process.

IS IT WRONG TO ROOT FIRST IN WATER? Someone wrote an article one time saying it was wrong to start cuttings in water. According to this theory, you get "water roots" instead of "soil roots" and the plant is set back when it is put into soil because it has to form new "soil roots." Technically this may be true, but in practice it is of no consequence. In my opinion, rooting in water works so well, that no one would ever guess there was a problem ... unless he happened to read that article. Starting leaves in water is often very convenient, and it is an excellent method for beginners to use.

WHICH SOIL WORKS THE BEST? I think everyone agrees that the soil mix for rooting leaves should be a well draining mix with good aeration. It should also be a lean or unfertile mix. A soil that is rich in organic materials or other fertilizers is death to new cuttings. The largest growers use the same soil for rooting leaves that they use to pot the blooming plants. This works for them since extreme caution is taken not to water the rooting trays too frequently.

What works best for me under home conditions? From the Alpha AVS in Texas I learned to root leaves in coarse vermiculite (no soil). This is the best method I have found. Use a Swift's Moist-Rite or Oyama Texas Style self-watering pot with coarse vermiculite in it instead of soil. Use 1/4 teaspoon of 15-30-15 or other fertilizer of your choice in 1 gallon of water instead of plain water in the self-watering pots. Try this method, you will like it.

WHAT ABOUT ROOTING HORMONE? Since violet leaves root so easily, most growers do not use rooting hormones. Some years ago I conducted a test in the greenhouses and I did not find that they made any appreciable difference. There is one advantage to one of the rooting products. ROOTONE has an effective fungicide in it that really

helps prevent disease. This is of great benefit where disease is a problem in the leaf trays. I have also found that rooting hormones are a big help in rooting suckers.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE? In the greenhouse the time allowed for leaf cuttings to produce plantlets large enough to separate ranges from 16 weeks in the south to 20 weeks in the northern states. This allows the tray of leaves to be crammed full of good sized plantlets that can be separated, groomed, and graded for size. Beginners should not be in too big a hurry to separate the baby plantlets. The younger and smaller that they are separated the greater danger there is of loss. Here again, at home I find the vermiculite and self-watering pots to be most helpful with newly separated plants. Instead of potting the small plants directly into soil in individual pots, I pot them into the self-watering pots of vermiculite for a few more weeks until they are more established.

WHAT ABOUT LEAVES BY MAIL? When you order leaves by mail, most all sources will ship them to you with the petioles wrapped in moist cotton or tissue with the leaves sealed in plastic bags. This usually works fine except in hot weather, the excessive moisture in the sealed plastic bag causes the leaves to rot. Believe it or not, the best way to ship leaves is *dry*. Here is the method that has worked best for me shipping leaves to violet friends. Place the leaves into a zip-lock plastic bag. Blow your breath into the bag. This will cause some moist condensation inside the bag and leave a trace of carbon dioxide. Seal up the bag and the leaves will travel safely for up to 10 days.

Violets are fun to grow and share with others. Once you discover the "secret of the leaf" you may become addicted for life.

Attention Affiliates:

Our AVSA Library material (slides & packets) is now being sent from the Beaumont office. Please check the "Strictly Business - Your Business" page (inside front cover) of each issue for complete details.

Room Sharing

Kansas City Convention - May 23-28, 1989

Is room sharing for you?

Are you interested in making your expenses less by sharing a room with someone?

The AVSA Convention Committee discussed this at the Dallas Convention and feel this would be helpful. We offer this service to anyone interested.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

\$70 plus tax per room for two.

Non-smoker _____ Smoker _____

Age: _____ under 25 _____ 26-50 _____ 51 and over

Arrival date _____

Departure date _____

Any other considerations:

All requests must be made by April 1, 1989, so we may contact all interested "violet friends" and meet the deadline for hotel reservations.

Send requests to: Ruth E. Warren
P. O. Box 3664
Fall River, MA 02722
508-679-1189

Look for complete 1989 Kansas City Convention Information
in the January/February 1989 issue of the
African Violet Magazine

Texas-Style Potting Method

Pauline Bartholomew

Since many first took plants out of the ground and began growing them in containers, the search for better potting methods, better potting mixes, and better watering procedures has never ceased. Then the Texas-Style potting method comes along and creates quite a stir in the African violet world. It is so simple that the question has often been asked, "Why wasn't it discovered before?" Well, countless horticulturists have been within a hairsbreadth of it through one technique or another. The common failing of all of these techniques has been the cultural sophistication required or the costly or complicated paraphernalia involved.

The Texas-Style potting method was developed by Jodi Davis of Austin, Texas. Through years of brainwashing by the Texans, we have come to associate anything from Texas as being bigger and better! This applies to everything from cattle to men. Now we can add African violets. Even in Japan there is a statue of Buddha that is popularly called "Texas Buddha" because of its enormous size. It was very considerate of Mrs. Davis to be living in Texas when she came up with this idea. Texas-Style would never have had the same impact if the method were called by any other name.

At the time I learned of this method I didn't know Mrs. Davis was calling it "Nature's Way." After I tried it I was so enthusiastic about the results that I started talking and writing about, for want of a better description, "Texas-Style." The name stuck. Jodi finally gave up and at the AVSA convention in 1978 in Austin, Texas, she proclaimed the official name to be Texas-Style.

Like all African violet growers, Mrs. Davis wanted to find a better way to grow these sometimes contrary plants. She began researching and reading everything she could find on how they originally grew in their natural habitat. She soon found some common factors. Many of the species grew in a shallow layer of rich compost created by dense forest foliage and other materials. Under the layer of compost was a layer of rocky rubble. The roots grew down into the rubble and frequent rains washed down through the rubble and kept the roots moist. She

simply applied those principles to container-grown African violets.

The simplicity of the Texas-Style potting method has made it popular for growing most types of house plants. But, to quote Ken Bowman, "It's the best thing that ever happened to African violets." The method is easy to learn, almost any pot can be used, the materials are readily available, and it takes much of the guesswork out of watering. Since plant growth is greatly accelerated the foliage is lush and more blossoms are produced. Texas-Style consists basically of a shallow layer of coarse, pebbly, inert material and a shallow layer of potting mix. The plants are watered from the bottom with a dilute fertilizer solution.

Mrs. Davis uses coarse, granite gravel (turkey grits) to duplicate the layer of rubble found in nature. I changed to perlite about the third time I hauled an 80-lb. bag of gravel out of the trunk of my car. The principle — air spaces formed by the material — is the same for both. The watering procedure differs slightly because of the porosity of the perlite. Gravel takes up water exclusively by capillary attraction while perlite has some initial absorption and then the remainder of the water is taken up by capillary attraction.

Why Texas-Style Works

Respiration takes place in two areas of plants: foliage and root tips. It is essential to the health of plants that a free flow of air is available to both of these areas. The leaves should be kept free of dust and grime and the roots should have ample breathing space. The magic of Texas-Style takes place in the perlite layer. The following two actions take place in that layer.

Air spaces in the perlite layer allow the free exchange of gases at the root tips: Like humans, plants have to breathe to live. We take in oxygen and give off carbon dioxide. Plants do just the opposite. They take in carbon dioxide and give off oxygen. This transfer is called the "gas exchange." Whether in plants or animals, the gas exchange can take place only in air. Air spaces are present in a porous potting mix, but to a lesser, more restricted degree. By

providing the root system with additional air space in the perlite layer, plant growth is given a big boost. *Roots have free access to moisture and nutrients in the perlite layer:* Even under optimum conditions, getting the proper amount of water and nourishment is a traumatic experience for the roots of container grown plants. The roots are in competition with the soil for water which, to some degree, is made physically unavailable by absorption into the peat moss. Nutrients are also, to some degree, made chemically unavailable by the pH of the soil mix.

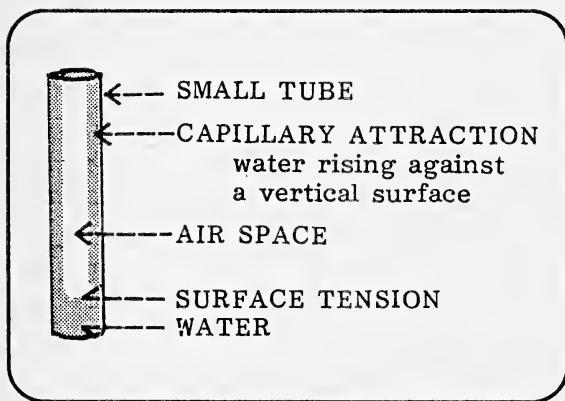
How Texas-Style Works

The nutrient solution in the saucer is drawn up to the root system by capillary attraction. The air spaces between particles, including the perlite layer, or particles in the potting mix, form a myriad of little "tubes" or capillaries.

Capillary: Having a very small internal diameter, as a tube.

Capillary Attraction: The force that causes a liquid to rise against a vertical surface such as water in a small glass vial.

Surface Tension: The molecules in water create tension, such as water beading on a smooth surface. It is this tension that starts the action of capillary attraction.



Principles of Watering Texas-Style

Watering used to be one of the most difficult skills to learn in growing African violets. With the conventional method of potting and top watering, it would take the beginning grower many years to learn how to water properly. With Texas-Style I have seen determined new growers win a Best in Show award in less than six months.

Drowning was the most common method of

killing violets. After many warnings from veteran growers, the beginner would be so afraid of overwatering that the root ball would rattle around dry in the pot. There was an old saying, "When in doubt, don't water." With Texas-Style it has become, "When in doubt, water."

Texas-Style allows a wider margin of forgiveness over conventional methods for overwatering and underwatering. The roots have breathing space even if the novice is somewhat heavy-handed with the water. On the other hand, the perlite layer retains enough moisture to maintain the roots if too little water is given. Remember, a "margin" is allowed. Swamp-like or desert-like conditions will not be forgiven, at least not if it happens more than two or three times to the same plant.

Almost exact amounts of water and intervals between watering can be determined for Texas-Style. Even the beginner can have healthy plants from the start. However, as experience is gained, watering skills can be developed to a high degree of accuracy. An experienced grower adds just the right amount of water a plant needs to sustain it for optimum growth until the next watering day.

The primary way of developing watering skill is by learning to judge the moisture content of a pot by feeling the top of the soil. The experienced grower can also tell from the heft of the pot how much moisture remains. (*This was another reason I changed from granite gravel to perlite for Texas-Style. The weight of the gravel ruined my finely-honed heft!*) For example, a pot that still feels heavy at the end of the watering interval means that one of four conditions exist:

1. The plant has been recently potted so that the root system is not yet mature enough to use up all the water.

2. A particular variety has a genetically sparse or weak root system so that water is not being used to the fullest extent. If this is the case, do not pot these varieties beyond a 4" or 5" pot.

3. A particular variety has an exceptionally dense, heavy root system. I have grown only two varieties with this characteristic. I never got used to it and was alarmed by the weight of the pots everytime I picked up the plants.

4. The roots have been damaged by a pest or pathogen to the extent that the plant no longer has a full complement of healthy roots to take up the water.

The 1988 Master List of African Violets

Compiled by Mary A. Boland, Master Variety List Chairman

Supplement to African Violet Magazine

Volume 41 Number 6

November/December 1988

*One Asterisk designates registered varieties.

**Two Asterisks designate a change.

Descriptions are submitted by the hybridizer.

A

****ACA'S WEWONCHU** (6162) 2/18/86
(Brownlie) Two-tone pink and red fringed
semidouble. Dark, plain, quilted foliage.
Large.

***ALAIS** (6724) 9/23/87 (K. Campbell) Me-
dium pink, occasionally two-tone, double.
Medium green, plain foliage, occasional
red back. Miniature.

ALAMO PRINCE (Pittman) Deep purple
double. Shiny medium green foliage.
Semiminiature.

***ALBANY SUNSET** (6852) 2/26/88 (B.
Britt) Bright pink, semidouble. Dark green,
plain, quilted, foliage. Large.

ALMOST HEAVEN See Rainbow's Almost
Heaven

ALMOST SINFUL See Rob's Almost Sinful

****ALTAMONT** (6265) 6/9/86 (P. Harris)
Blue and white pansy type, single. Chi-
mera. Plain foliage. Miniature semitrail-
ing.

ANNAIS (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Cool pink to
fuchsia, ruffled pansy. Dark serrated foli-
age. Standard.

ANGEL LACE (Lyon GH/Sorano) White
randomly touched on petal edges with blue,
semidouble. Medium green foliage. Stan-
dard.

ANGELS GLOW (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large
soft pink star, overtones of hot pink, semi-
double. Green and white variegated foli-
age. Standard.

****ANN** (6649) 6/1/87 (B. Bryant) Rose-pink,

two-tone center and edge, fringed, double.
Dark, longifolia, quilted, ruffled, cupped
up, pointed, heavily variegated, sometimes
touches of pink, glossy foliage. Large.

ANNA SMITH See Marie's Anna Smith

APRIL ROSE (Lyon GH/Sorano) White,
blushed medium pink center, occasional
touch of green, semidouble to double.
Medium green foliage. Standard.

ARCTIC GOLD See Rainbow's Arctic Gold

ASTRALITE (D. Wilson) Pink, ruffled edge,
deeper pink edge, sometimes some green,
full double. Dark serrated pointed foliage.
Large.

***ASTRAL MACRO** (6776) 11/21/87 (G.
Starr) Two-tone pink, with deeper centers,
slightly ruffled, single to semidouble star.
Plain, quilted, red reverse foliage. Large.

***ASTRAL NEXUS** (6777) 11/21/87 (G.
Starr) Red, slightly ruffled, semidouble.
Dark green, plain, quilted red reverse foli-
age. Large.

***ASTRAL PEACE** (6778) 11/21/87 (G.
Starr) Two-tone pink, double star. Plain,
quilted red reverse foliage. Large.

AUBERGINE (Jeannette's Jesneriads)
Mauve pansy, black tipping, double. Dark
tailored foliage. Large.

AUGUST SKIES (Lyon GH/Sorano) Very
large white star, mottled light blue, some
blue edge, double. Medium green foliage.
Standard.

AUNT MARY See Marie's Aunt Mary

***AUTUMN BLUES** (6732) 11/2/87 (Lyon
GH/Sorano) Semidouble, light blue. Green
and white variegated, quilted, ovate foli-
age. Large.

AUTUMN SUNSET (Lyon GH/Sorano)

Very large dark fuchsia star, double. Heavily variegated green and white, sometimes pink foliage. Large.

B

BALLYHOO BLUE See Ness's Ballyhoo Blue

***BEAU JESTER** (6733) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double star, fringed, dark lavender with purple fantasy. Dark green, red backed, plain foliage. Large.

BELLEAMI See Ness's Belleami

***BELLS OF IRELAND** (6831) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) White, wide green edge, semi-double cupped bell. Plain foliage. Standard.

BIENVENUE (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Light pink two-tone, upper petals darker, pansy, ruffled semidouble. Dark ruffled foliage. Standard.

****BILL FOSTER** (6652) 6/1/87 Fuchsia-rose, two-tone, slightly geneva, semidouble. Dark green, variegated, quilted, ovate, glossy, hairy foliage. Large.

BLUE BABE See Ness's Blue Babe

BLUE BEACON (Pittman) Large medium blue double. Dark green tailored foliage. Standard.

***BLUEBERRY BUCKLE** (6734) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double blue star with geneva edge. Medium green red backed wavy foliage. Large.

BLUE FLIRT See Ness's Blue Flirt

***BOW BELLS** (6715) 8/22/87 (A.E. Adams) Two-tone pale pink, deeper edge and eye, single bell. Medium green plain foliage. Miniature.

BRAZEN EMBRACE (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Bright pink two-tone, dark eye and some edges, lightly ruffled star, semi-double. Medium green tailored foliage. Standard.

BRIAR ROSE See Yarrow Briar Rose

BRITE EYES (M. Burns) Pink pansy, dark eye, semidouble. Plain dark foliage. Large.

***BUD'S MELANIE** (6763) 11/7/87 (B. Weber) White, single star. Quilted foliage.

Large.

BURGUNDY BEAU See Ness's Burgundy Beau

BURNISHED HALO (Boone) Deep plum semidouble. Variegated foliage. Standard.

C

***CAJUN FIDDLER** (6768) 11/9/87 (B. Sisk) Pink, two-tone with deeper edges, double. Variegated ruffled foliage. Large.

CALICO MISS (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large light lavender star, occasional darker tips, single to semidouble. Variegated foliage. Standard.

***CALICO ROSE** (6860) 3/1/88 (Mrs. R.D. Tompkin) White, hot pink splotches and edges, ruffled double. Medium green, plain, pointed, hairy foliage. Semiminiature.

***CAN DE** (6815) 1/25/88 (Pittman) White, fuchsia markings, fringed, double. Ruffled, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

CARELESS BLUE (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large bright blue star, semidouble. Medium green foliage. Standard.

CENTER STAGE See Rainbow's Center Stage

CHARMING HEART (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large fuchsia star, lightly ruffled edge, fading to pink/white, semidouble to double. Dark green slightly wavy foliage. Standard.

CHERRY COOLER (Lyon GH/Sorano) Fuchsia double. Green and white variegated foliage. Standard.

CHERRY TOPPING (Lyon GH/Sorano) Light to medium pink, bright fuchsia tips on some petals, semidouble. Medium to dark green foliage. Standard.

CLOWN AROUND See Rob's Clown Around

****COOKIE'S LOVELY LADY** (6771) 11/9/87 (B. Sisk) Two-tone purple, ruffled, double. Variegated foliage. Large.

***CORAL CLOUD** (6735) 11/2/87 (Lyon

GH/Sorano) Semidouble, white star with coral mottling. Medium green plain foliage. Large.

CORAL HALO (Boone) Coral pink semidouble to double. Tailored medium green and cream variegated foliage. Standard.

***CORAL KISS** (6736) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble, coral star. Medium green with light red back plain, pointed foliage. Large.

CORAL KITTY See Ramona's Coral Kitty

***CRAWDADDY** (6869) 3/19/88 (B. Sisk) Deep lavender two-tone, double. Quilted, dark green and white variegated foliage. Large.

CRAZY DAZE See Rob's Crazy Daze

CRIMSON KISS See Ness's Crimson Kiss

***CROWN CENTER** (6859) 3/1/88 (G. Gill) Pink fantasy, lavender stripe, geneva edge, single star, chimera. Medium green, plain foliage, red reverse. Standard.

***CRYSTAL PLUM** (6764) 11/9/87 (F. Tinari) White, deep plum edges, ruffled, single/semidouble. Medium green, lightly quilted, serrated foliage. Standard.

CRYSTAL ROSE See Ness's Crystal Rose

D

***DALLAS DEB** (6816) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Lavender, purple edge and geneva edge, semidouble. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

DALLAS DOLL (Pittman) Midnight blue, sometimes white edge, double. Medium green tailored foliage. Semiminiature.

***DAVID'S DELIGHT** (6883) 5/26/88 (D. Lass) Blush pink, green petal backs, double. Dark green quilted foliage, red reverse. Standard.

DAWN See Yarrow Dawn

DAYBREAK BLUE (K. Stork) Large semidouble star, light blue center to pale blue at edge. Deep green, tailored, quilted foliage. Standard.

DEDICATED TO LOVE (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Shades of cool pink, pansy,

single. Dark quilted foliage. Standard.

***DEE DOUBLE YOU** (6884) 5/26/88 (D. Lass) Blush pink, double. Dark green, quilted foliage, red reverse. Standard.

DELIGHT See David's Delight

***DESIR** (6848) 2/10/88 (D. Croteau) Light blue, sometimes white or green edges, semidouble. Dark green, quilted, light red reverse foliage. Large.

DIAMOND CHIPS See Rob's Diamond Chips

***DIAMOND DUST** (6731) 7/24/87 (D. Wilson) White, occasional pink tinge in center, double. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. Semiminiature.

***DIXIE DELIGHT** (6817) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Medium blue, geneva edge, semidouble star. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

DOUBLE DILLY (Lyon GH/Sorano) Lavender star, purple fantasy, geneva edge, often some green, semidouble to double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

DREAM LOVER (Lyon GH/Sorano) Coral star, semidouble. Dark green, white and pink variegated foliage. Standard.

***DUSTY MEMORY** (6737) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble, dusty rose pink star with geneva edge. Medium green red backed, plain, ovate foliage. Large.

E

EDGE OF NIGHT (Travis' Violets) Large blue, thin white edge, double. Quilted foliage. Standard.

ELEGANT LADY (Pittman) Deep rose double. Dark green tailored foliage. Standard.

***ELLEN GRIFFIN'S PRIDE** (6747) 2/14/88 (J. Munk) Lavender, darker edges, frilled, semidouble. Green, pink and white variegated, red reverse foliage. Large.

EMERALD GLOW (Lyon GH/Sorano) White, lime green ruffled edge, semidouble. Ruffled medium green foliage. Standard.

EMILY (M. Burns) Hot pink, frilly pansy with darker eye, semidouble. Dark wavy foliage. Large.

ENCHANTED GOLD See Rainbow's Enchanted Gold

ENCHANTED HALO (Boone) Two-tone pink, frilled greenish white edge, semi-double to double. Pointed variegated foliage. Standard.

END OF DAY (Boone) Large medium blue star, darker tips, double. Dark green foliage. Large.

***EULA** (6875) 4/2/88 (E. McCawley) Pink with band of bright fuchsia two-tone, fringed, single pansy. Green and white variegated, quilted ovate foliage. Standard.

EVA'S ALOHA See Ness's Eva's Aloha

***EVENING STAR TRAIL** (6725) 10/9/87 (C. Sotkiewicz) Rose, white feathered tips, single star. Medium green, plain, ovate foliage. Standard trailer.

EXTRAVAGANZA See Tony's Extravaganza

F

FANCY FLIRT (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large white, fuchsia edge, upper petals accented with green, ruffled edge, semidouble to double. Slightly wavy medium green foliage. Large.

FANCY NIGHTS (M. Burns) Lavender pink fantasy star, darker stripe chimera, semi-double. Dark foliage. Large.

***FANTASY FLAIR** (6804) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Medium pink, blue fantasy specks, geneva edge, double. Medium green, quilted, pointed, hairy foliage. Standard.

***FANTASY FRILL** (6805) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Bright pink center, whitish edge fantasy specks, fringed double. Medium green, quilted, ruffled, hairy foliage. Standard.

***FANTASY FROLIC** (6765) 11/9/87 (F. Tinari) Lavender pink, splashed with dark purple fantasy, ruffled, semidouble. Medium green, plain, wavy foliage. Large.

dium green, plain, heart shaped, slightly hairy foliage. Standard.

***FANTASY GLO** (6806) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Bright pink, blue fantasy specks and white edge, fringed, double. Medium green, plain, ruffled, hairy foliage. Standard.

***FANTASY JEWEL** (6807) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Bright pink, dark blue fantasy, double. Dark green, quilted, pointed, hairy, red reverse. Standard.

FICKLE FANTASY (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large pink, fluted and wavy star, blue fantasy markings, double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

***FICKLE FLIRT** (6738) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble pink star with blue fantasy and geneva edge. Plain, quilted foliage. Large.

FIREWALKER (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large deep mauve red star, some darker tips, double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

FLIRTATIOUS ROSE (Lyon GH/Sorano) Rosy fuchsia star, semidouble to double. Variegated foliage. Standard.

***FLO'S PINK RAIN** (6791) 12/21/87 (F. Hogan) Bright pink, white edges and streaks, white is variable, double. Deep green, quilted, pointed, glossy, girl foliage. Semiminiature.

***FLO'S PURPLE HEART** (6792) 12/21/87 (F. Hogan) White, purple eye and markings, double. Medium green, quilted, glossy, pebbly foliage. Semiminiature.

***FLO'S RAINBOW** (6793) 12/21/87 (F. Hogan) Bright pink, blue and white streaks that radiate from center, white edge, double. Deep green, quilted, serrated, slight girl foliage. Semiminiature. Will bloom true from sucker only.

***FLO'S WHITE SWAN** (6794) 12/21/87 (F. Hogan) White, sometimes with splash of pink, semidouble star. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. Semiminiature.

FOOLISHNESS See Rob's Foolishness

***FOUNTAINBLEAU** (6870) 3/19/88 (B. Hogan) Large pink, white center, white edge, double. Medium green, plain, wavy foliage. Large.

Sisk) Medium blue, double. Green, white and pink variegated foliage. Large.

FRANCES BUFANO See Marie's Frances Bufano

FRANK BUFANO See Marie's Frank Bufano

***FRECKLED STAR** (6766) 11/9/87 (F. Tinari) Lavender pink, deep purple fantasy, ruffled, semidouble star. Medium green, slightly quilted, glossy, heart shaped foliage. Standard.

FRENZY (Boone) Variable fuchsia-red and white, frilly green edge, double. Wavy medium green foliage. Standard.

FRILLED FUCHSIA (M. Burns) Fuchsia, frilled pansy, semidouble. Dark, glossy, heart-shaped foliage. Large.

FROSTED FRUIT (Travis' Violets) Large dusty pink, purple streaks and spots, semidouble. Dark green foliage. Standard.

***FROSTY MORNING** (6861) 3/1/88 (Mrs. R.D. Tompkin) Blue, white veining and edge, ruffled, double. Dark green, plain foliage slightly red reverse. Standard.

FUJI GOLD See Rainbow's Fuji Gold

FURIOUS (Boone) Large fringed deep red semidouble star. Slightly wavy, medium-to-dark green foliage. Standard.

G

GALACTIC STARBURST See Rainbow's Galactic Starburst

GARNET HALO (Boone) Deep purple-red, semidouble. Cream and green variegated foliage. Large.

GENTLE WONDER (Pittman) Blue varyingly splashed with white, semidouble. Dark green tailored foliage. Standard.

GLAMOR QUEEN (Cox) Deep blue, frilly edge, white veins on upper petals. Dark, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.

***GRAPE SLUSH** (6739) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble lavender star with purple tips. Pink, green and white variegated, quilted, ruffled foliage. Large.

GREEN CRYSTAL (B. Elkin) Single pale

rose with white center stripe, green fringed edge. Light green wavy foliage. Standard.

H

***HAPPY HARRIET** (6876) 4/2/88 (E. McCawley) Medium pink, sometimes a pencil thin fuchsia edge, full double star. Green with pink variegated edge, quilted foliage. Large.

HEATHER FEATHER (M. Burns) Variable medium pink and white, pansy, some green on top edge, semidouble. Light green plain foliage. Large.

HEAVENS REFLECTION (Lyon GH/Sorano) Lavender, Occasional darker tones, semidouble. Variegated foliage. Standard.

***HELLO SUNSHINE** (6740) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble, fuchsia star with geneva edge. Medium green, red backed, plain, quilted foliage. Large.

***HERITAGE FROLIC** (6716) 8/22/87 (A.E. Adams) Deep rose, green tinged white edge, frilled, double. Dark, red reverse, slightly wavy, pointed foliage. Semiminiature.

HIGH RISE TRAIL (D. Wilson) Medium pink single. Strawberry foliage. Standard trailer.

***HONEYBEE** (6720) 8/28/87 (I. Fredette) Pink single. Plain cream and green variegated foliage. Standard.

***HONEY TRAIL** (6726) 10/9/87 (C. Sotkiewicz) Deep pink, with raspberry streaks, semidouble star. Dark green, quilted, fringed, heart shaped foliage. Semiminiature trailer.

HOOT-N-TOOT (Travis' Violets) Large two-tone orchid, darker upper tips, semidouble. Green foliage. Standard.

I

IMPERIAL GOLD See Rainbow's Imperial Gold

INDIAN CORN (K. Stork) Large fuchsia, purple fantasy markings, semidouble to

double star. Deep green, lavender-pink and cream tailored Tommie Lou foliage. Large.

IRISH ICE (Lyon GH/Sorano) White fluted and wavy, upper petals tipped lime green, semidouble to double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

J

***JANICE ANN** (6877) 4/25/88 (D. Wilson) Medium pink, darker eye, semidouble. Dark blue-green, plain, quilted foliage with red reverse. Large.

***JENNY ANN** (6761) 10/10/87 (H. Van Horn) Lavender, two-tone, darker edge and tips, fringed, double. Medium green, plain foliage. Standard.

JOEY'S PAL See Ness's Joey's Pal

***JOYFUL JOSIE** (6863) 3/12/88 (P. Brenner) Two-tone rose, double. Dark green, plain foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature.

***JUDY PARTAIN** (6769) 11/9/87 (B. Sisk) Deep pink, semidouble. Variegated foliage. Large.

JUST-A-PINK (L. Egenites) Full double pink. Plain Champion variegation rosette forming foliage. Standard.

JUST FUN (Travis' Violets) Large lavender, purple shading and thin edge, double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

K

***KANSAS CITY TRAILS** (6762) 11/3/87 (J. Wickell) Glittery pink, raspberry haze all over, concentrated on petal edges, semi-double to double star. Medium green slightly quilted, glossy, scalloped foliage. Standard trailer.

KENNY BILL See Marie's Kenny Bill

***KILAUEA** (6808) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Pink fantasy, middle white stripe, single, chimera. Light green, quilted, pointed, glossy foliage. Standard.

***KISSY FACE** (6770) 11/9/87 (B. Sisk) Two-tone pink, double. Variegated foliage. Large.

L

LACY LADY (Boone) Large hot pink, fluted white edge, full double star. Plain dark green foliage. Standard.

***L' AMBASSADEUR** (6849) 2/10/88 (D. Croteau) Medium blue, white edge, semi-double. Dark green quilted, medium red reverse foliage. Large.

***LAVENDER COTTON** (6727) 10/9/87 (C. Sotkiewicz) Lavender, with darker eye and white petal back, double star. Medium green, pale green reverse, plain, pointed, fringed foliage. Standard trailer.

***LAVENDER MAGIC** (6818) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Lavender, geneva edge, double. Medium green, plain foliage. Semiminiature.

LIL REFLECTION (Lyon GH/Sorano) Dark reddish lavender, dark purple fantasy, semidouble. Variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

LILAC TIME See Ness's Lilac Time

LITTLE BANDIT See Marie's Little Bandit

***LITTLE BOUNTIFUL** (6717) 8/22/87 (A.E. Adams) Deep rose, white edge, double. Dark, plain, pointed foliage. Semiminiature.

***LITTLE DOLL** (6741) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble white star with blue mottling. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. Semiminiature.

LITTLE HARP (Pittman) Fuchsia semidouble. Miniature.

LITTLE MISSY (Lyon GH/Sorano) Small light lavender semidouble. Variegated foliage, often touched pink. Miniature.

LITTLE PRINCE (Lyon GH/Sorano) Dark bright blue star, double. Dark green foliage. Semiminiature.

***LITTLE TREASURE** (6742) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double white with fringed blue edge, and some green on edge. Medium green plain, wavy foliage. Semiminiature.

****LIVELY LAURA** (6723) 9/16/87 (G. McDonald) White, single star. Medium

green quilted, slightly serrated foliage. Semiminiature.

****LLOYD'S JO ANN** (4130) 11/19/80 (Lloyd's AV) Single white and blue, variable, sometimes stripes. Plain pointed foliage. Standard.

LOUISIANA SUGAR CANE (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Cool pink, upper petals darker, pale center ray, fuchsia eye, ruffled semidouble. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.

***LOVE STRIPES** (6743) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Single white star, chimera with light blue side stripes. Medium green plain foliage. Large.

LOVE TALKS (Travis' Violets) Large lavender to wine, sometimes some white, semidouble. Medium green quilted foliage. Standard.

LOVELY LADY See Cookie's Lovely Lady

***LOVELY LAURA** (6864) 3/12/88 (P. Brenner) White, random orchid fantasy, single. Medium green, plain foliage, light reverse. Semiminiature.

***LOVELY LINDA** (6865) 3/12/88 (P. Brenner) Coral pink, some white, variable, double. Medium green, plain foliage, pale green reverse. Semiminiature.

***LUCKY LEE ANN** (6866) 3/12/88 (P. Brenner) Plum two-tone, single. Dark green, plain foliage, red reverse. Semiminiature.

LUNAR JEWELS See Rainbow's Lunar Jewels

***LUV'S REFLECTION** (6744) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double ruffled pink chimera, with blue center stripe, geneva edge. Variegated, quilted foliage. Large.

***LUZIANNA** (6871) 3/19/88 (B. Sisk) Two-tone blue, double. Dark green and pink variegated foliage. Large.

M

***MAGENTA MAGIC** (6853) 2/26/88 (B. Britt) Magenta red, semidouble. Dark green, plain, quilted foliage with red reverse. Large.

MAGIC LADY (M. Burns) Large light pink

ruffled star, darker edge or tip, semidouble. Dark serrated, heart-shaped foliage. Large.

MARCUS (M. Burns) Large magenta pansy, semidouble. Dark foliage. Large.

MARIA ROSE (M. Burns) Light pink, darker stripe chimera, full double. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S ANNA SMITH** (6781) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Medium blue, double. Wavy, glossy, pink and white variegated foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S AUNT MARY** (6782) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Lavender two-tone, purple pencil edge, fringed, semidouble. Pointed, variegated, notched outer edge foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S FRANCES BUFANO** (6783) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Medium blue two-tone, darker pencil edge, fringed, single to semidouble. Ruffled, glossy, heart-shaped, variegated rose and cream foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S FRANK BUFANO** (6784) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Medium to dark blue, fringed, semidouble. Quilted, glossy, variegated foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S KENNY BILL** (6785) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Medium blue, ruffled, semidouble. Quilted, cupped up, spooned, glossy, pink reverse variegated foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S LITTLE BANDIT** (6786) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Medium blue, pink and white fantasy, single. Plain medium green foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S PACIFIC SERENADE** (6787) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Light blue, ruffled, single star. Quilted, ruffled, glossy, rose reverse, variegated foliage. Large.

***MARIE'S SINCERELY WINSTON** (6788) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Bright mauve two-tone, fringed, semidouble. Wavy, glossy, heavily variegated foliage. Standard.

***MARIE'S STILLWATER COVE** (6789) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Medium blue, ruffled, single. Ruffled, cupped, rose re-

verse, rose and ivory variegated foliage with rose reverse. Large.

***MARIE'S THREE BELLS** (6790) 11/26/87 (M. Beeman) Bright blue, double. Ruffled, glossy, pink reverse, rose and green variegated foliage with pink reverse. Large.

***MARTHA PAYNE** (6879) 5/13/88 (Capital City AVS/Nadeau) Dark blue, ruffled, double. Pointed variegated foliage. Standard.

MAUVE MEMORIES (Pittman) Velvet burgundy double. Dark green tailored foliage. Standard.

MELANIE See Bud's Melanie

***MEMPHIS IN MAY** (6772) 11/9/87 (B. Sisk) Ruffled semidouble two-tone fuchsia. Variegated foliage with pink overlay. Standard.

MIDNIGHT COMET (Travis' Violets) Large medium blue, thin geneva edge, semidouble. Variegated foliage. Large.

MINNESOTA SPLASH See Ness's Minnesota Splash

****MINNIE MINE** (6202) 8/22/87 (A. Adams) Deep rose, edged white/green double. Dark olive green, plain foliage. Miniature.

****MINT JULEP** (6664) 6/1/87 (B. Bryant) White, green edge, semidouble to double pansy. Medium green, pink variegated, quilted, ovate foliage. Standard.

***MISTER EXCITEMENT** (6872) 3/19/88 (B. Sisk) Ruffled deep blue double. Dark green & white variegated quilted foliage. Large.

***MIXED MAGIC** (6819) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Pink, geneva edge, double. Dark green, plain, quilted, red reverse foliage. Standard.

***MONDAY'S CHILD** (6854) 2/26/88 (B. Britt) Light blue, semidouble. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. Large.

***MOONBEAMS** (6809) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Pink, large blue fantasy marks, white middle stripe, single, chimera. Light green, quilted, pointed, glossy foliage.

Standard.

***MOON RAYS** (6820) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Rose pink semidouble. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

***MORNING THUNDER** (6745) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double white with blue edge. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. Large.

MUFFET (Pittman) White double. Light green tailored foliage. Miniature.

***MY DOLL** (6821) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Rosey pink, semidouble. Plain, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Miniature.

N

NEAT NELLIE See Ness's Neat Nellie

NEON HALO (Boone) Two-tone magenta semidouble. Quilted, variegated dark green, lavender-pink and cream foliage. Large.

NESS'S BALLYHOO BLUE (Don Ness) Light blue, darker blue fantasy, semi-double pansy. Dark green, lightly scalloped, red backed foliage. Standard.

NESS'S BELLEAMI (Don Ness) Lavender, deeply ruffled edges, single bell. Dark green, ruffled, variegated foliage. Standard.

NESS'S BLUE BABE (Don Ness) Large, light blue, lighter blue or white edge, double. Medium green pointed, quilted foliage. Standard.

NESS'S BLUE FLIRT (Don Ness) Medium blue, semidouble. Dark green and cream scalloped variegated foliage. Standard.

NESS'S BURGUNDY BEAU (Don Ness) Wine, semidouble. Dark green and cream variegated, red backed foliage. Standard.

NESS'S CRIMSON KISS (Don Ness) Huge, dusty-wine, tips have deeper tones, slightly ruffled, double. Dark green quilted, wavy red backed foliage. Standard.

NESS'S CRYSTAL ROSE (Don Ness) Deep rose red, semidouble to double. Dark green quilted foliage. Small standard.

NESS'S EVA'S ALOHA (Don Ness) Soft pink, lightly frilled, semidouble pansy. Dark green, heart-shaped foliage. Small standard.

NESS'S JOEY'S PAL (Don Ness) Medium blue, semidouble to double. Dark green heart-shaped foliage. Standard.

NESS'S LILAC TIME (Don Ness) Two-tone lilac, semidouble to double. Dark green, slightly wavy foliage. Standard.

NESS'S MINNESOTA SPLASH (Don Ness) Large, strawberry-red and white double. The white is variable and usually on the tips of the blossoms. Dark green, slightly spooned, quilted foliage. Compact standard.

NESS'S NEAT NELLIE (Don Ness) Soft fuchsia-pink, white pencil edge, single, pansy. Dark green, cream variegated foliage. Standard.

NESS'S NIGHT LIFE (Don Ness) Large white, with red, slightly ruffled edge, semi-double to double pansy. Medium green, quilted foliage. Standard.

NESS'S PINK FLUFF (Don Ness) Large, pale pink, double. Dark green, heart-shaped foliage. Small standard.

NESS'S PURPLE GREMLIN (Don Ness) Purple, frilled, semidouble, pansy. Dark green variegated foliage. Standard.

NESS'S SHIRLEY'S DELIGHT (Don Ness) Pink, frilled, semidouble, pansy. Dark green and cream scalloped variegated foliage. Standard.

NESS'S SNOWY DAZE (Don Ness) White, double. Light green, serrated, quilted foliage. Small standard.

NESS'S VIKING QUEEN (Don Ness) White, sometimes pale pink eye or edge, double. Medium green quilted foliage. Compact standard.

NEVER NAUGHTY See Rob's Never Naughty

NEW HORIZONS See Rainbow's New Horizons

NIGHT LIFE See Ness's Night Life

NITE BLOOMERS (B. Elkin) Fuchsia rose, dark fringe and tips, double. Wavy, fluted foliage. Standard.

****NORTEX'S SNOWKIST HAVEN** (6046) 9/12/85 (Johnson) White single, fringed, star. Medium green quilted, pointed, hairy foliage. Standard.

O

***ORCHID FRILLS** (6855) 2/26/88 (B. Britt) Lavender, ruffled, semidouble. Light green, plain foliage. Large.

ORGANDY RUFFLES (L. Egenites) Big ruffled double tones of pink, floriferous. Round tan variegation. Standard.

***OVATION** (6850) 2/10/88 (D. Croteau) Medium pink, hot pink center stripe, semi-double chimera. Medium green, quilted heavily ruffled foliage. Large.

OZARK GAL (Cox) Light lavender pansy, deep purple markings. Deep green tailored foliage. Large.

P

PACIFIC SERENADE See Marie's Pacific Serenade

PAINTED HEART (Travis' Violets) Large pink and purple fantasy star. Variegated foliage. Standard.

***PAINTED SUNRISE** (6746) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble pink two-tone with dark pink petal tips. Green, pink and white variegated, plain, pointed foliage. Large.

PARADISE PINK (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large pink star, full double. Dark green foliage. Large.

PASSION'S PROMISE (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Fuchsia two-tone, various patterning, double. Medium green tailored foliage. Standard.

PASSION'S REWARD (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Velvet two-tone purple, ruffled pansy, darker eye and edge, semidouble. Medium green tailored foliage. Standard.

PATHFINDER (K. Stork) Double purple,

fluted white edge. Dark green, pointed foliage. Standard.

PEACH GLOW (Lyon GH/Sorano) Peach pink semidouble. Dark green and pink variegated foliage. Standard.

PEACH PUFF (Travis' Violets) Peachy pink, darker shading, double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

***PENSI PRIDE** (6779) 11/21/87 (G. Starr) Light pink, semidouble. Quilted, tan to pink variegated foliage. Standard.

***PEPPERMINT PARASOL** (6862) 3/1/88 (Mrs. R.D. Tompkin) White, fuchsia fantasy, ruffled, single. Light green plain, pointed foliage. Semiminiature.

PERFECT PINK (Pittman) Bright pink, geneva edge, semidouble. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard.

****PERHAPS LOVE** (6773) 11/9/87 (B. Sisk) Very full double two-tone lavender with deeper lavender edge, outer, geneva. Variegated foliage. Large.

***PETTICOATS-N-LACE** (6747) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double white star with faint pink blush. Green, white and pink variegated, quilted, pointed foliage. Large.

***PETTICOATS-N-PINK** (6748) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble, light pink star with occasional dark pink petal tips. Pink, green and white variegated, quilted, ruffled foliage. Large.

PHANTOM FLASH (Boone) Frilled lavender-purple two-tone, semidouble pansy. Medium green foliage. Standard.

PHLOXIE (K. Stork) Fuchsia single to semi-double pansy. Plain tailored, dark green foliage. Standard.

PICOTEE PETTICOAT (D. Wilson) Mauve pink ruffled, deeper eye, pencil edge, semidouble. Dark green slightly ruffled foliage, pink variegation. Large.

***PICTURESQUE** (6810) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Red-orchid, wide white border, double. Medium green, quilted, pointed, red reverse foliage. Standard.

***PIMA STARS** (6874) 3/25/88 (B. Fraser) White, blue edge and stripe, single, chimaera. Quilted round foliage. Standard.

***PINK CONFESSION** (6749) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble pink star with pink veining. Dark green with red reverse, plain foliage. Large.

***PINK ENCHANTMENT** (6856) 2/26/88 (B. Britt) Pink, ruffled, double. Medium green, plain, quilted, wavy foliage. Large.

PINK FLUFF See Ness's Pink Fluff

PINK MINT (Lyon GH/Sorano) Light pink star, often green cast and green petal tips, full double. Medium green foliage. Semiminiature, semitrailing.

PINK RAIN See Flo's Pink Rain

PINK TASSLE (Pittman) Variable white, sometimes edged pink, semidouble. Light green wavy foliage. Standard.

PLAYFUL PET (Pittman) Sticktite deep rose single. Dark green tailored foliage. Semiminiature.

PLEASURE BENT (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Fuchsia, almost black tips, ruffled double. Black/green wavy foliage. Standard.

POLAR FROST See Rainbow's Polar Frost

PRECIOUS PEACH (Lyon GH/Sorano) Peachy pink double. Variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

PRECIOUS PIXIE (Lyon GH/Sorano) White, mottled varied amounts light fuchsia, may be solid white or solid fuchsia on same plant, semidouble to double. Variegated foliage. Tiny miniature.

PRIDE See Ellen Griffin's Pride

PRINCE OF DIXIE (M. Burns) Large magenta red star, semidouble. Dark green foliage. Large.

PURPLE GREMLIN See Ness's Purple Gremlin

PURPLE HEART See Flo's Purple Heart

PURPLE SMOKE RING (Boone) Lavender, frilly purple edge, semidouble star. Tailored, glossy, deep green foliage. Large.

R

RADIANT STAR (Pittman) White, sometimes with coral star or splashes of coral, semidouble. Light green tailored foliage. Standard.

RAINBOW See Flo's Rainbow

***RAINBOW'S ALMOST HEAVEN** (6832) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) White to pale blush, light pink and blue fantasy on petal edges, semidouble star. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

***RAINBOW'S ARCTIC GOLD** (6833) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) White, semidouble. Plain, quilted, crown variegated foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S CENTER STAGE** (6834) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) White, pink and blue fantasy on outer petal edges, semidouble. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

***RAINBOW'S ENCHANTED GOLD** (6835) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Light pink, raspberry fantasy spots and streaks, may have white edge on upper petals, semidouble. Quilted, pointed, crown foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S FUJI GOLD** (6836) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Semidouble white. Plain, quilted, crown variegated foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S GALACTIC STARBURST** (6837) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) White, blue mottling, semidouble. Plain, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard.

***RAINBOW'S IMPERIAL GOLD** (6838) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Purple, double star. Plain, quilted, crown variegated foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S LUNAR JEWELS** (6839) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Coral pink, blue fantasy spots and streaks, semidouble star. Plain, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard.

***RAINBOW'S NEW HORIZONS** (6840) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Light to medium blue, white and pink fantasy, semidouble star. Plain, quilted, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S POLAR FROST** (6841) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) White, green frilled edges, fringed, semidouble star. Plain, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S RASPBERRY FRENZY** (6842) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Pink, dark raspberry spattered edges, ruffled, semidouble. Plain, quilted, pointed, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard.

***RAINBOW'S RUBY LOU** (6843) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Dark red, semidouble. Plain, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S SNOWY GOLD** (6844) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) White, semidouble. Plain, crown variegated foliage. Large.

***RAINBOW'S STAGE LEFT** (6845) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Pink, blue fantasy on outer petal edges, semidouble. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

***RAINBOW'S SUPERCHARM** (6846) 2/5/88 (R. Wasmund) Pink, semidouble. Plain, quilted foliage. Large.

RAMBLIN LULLABY (Lyon GH/Sorano) Two-tone blue star, semidouble to double. Medium to dark green foliage. Semiminiature semitrailing.

RAMBLIN PEACH (Lyon GH/Sorano) Two-tone peachy pink double. Dark green foliage. Trailer.

***RAMBLIN SILVER** (6750) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double white. Green and yellow variegated foliage. Semiminiature trailer.

RAMBLIN SPOTS (Lyon GH/Sorano) Pink, blue fantasy markings, star, semidouble to double. Green, cream and yellow variegated foliage. Trailer.

***RAMONA'S CORAL KITTY** (6775) 11/15/87 (R. Hodges) Coral, with white stripe, semidouble star, chimera. Medium green, tailored, glossy foliage. Semiminiature.

RASPBERRY FRENZY See Rainbow's Raspberry Frenzy

***REDLANDS PRECIOUS** (6822) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Fuchsia, semidouble. Plain,

Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

***REDLANDS PRIDE** (6811) 1/15/88
(Granger's/Eyerdom) Red-orchid, narrow white border, double. Medium green, quilted, pointed, red reverse. Standard.

***ROBERT CROTEAU** (6851) 2/10/88 (D. Croteau) Lilac, large pale pink fantasy spots, double. Very dark, quilted, medium red reverse foliage. Large.

***ROB'S ALMOST SINFUL** (6795) 1/4/88
(R. Robinson) Medium pink, wide ruby red edge, some spatters on face, fringed, semidouble. Dark green, red reverse, variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

***ROB'S CLOWN AROUND** (6796) 1/4/88
(R. Robinson) Medium blue with purple flecks, may have green edge, fantasy, fringed, double. Dark, light red reverse, wavy, pointed, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Miniature.

***ROB'S CRAZY DAZE** (6797) 1/4/88 (R. Robinson) Deep pink, green edges, fringed, double. Medium to dark green, red reverse, wavy, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

***ROB'S DIAMOND CHIPS** (6798) 1/4/88
(R. Robinson) White, medium blue shadings, semidouble. Medium green, plain, pointed foliage. May be variegated when young or grown cool. Semiminiature.

***ROB'S FOOLISHNESS** (6799) 1/4/88 (R. Robinson) Medium pink, double star. Quilted, hairy, gold crown variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

***ROB'S NEVER NAUGHTY** (6800) 1/4/88
(R. Robinson) Dark blue, sometimes with green edge, fringed, double. Medium green, ruffled, gold crown variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

***ROB'S ROMANCER** (6801) 1/4/88 (R. Robinson) Medium fuchsia, sometimes with geneva edge, single to semidouble. Medium green, pointed, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Miniature.

***ROB'S SHADOW MAGIC** (6802) 1/4/88

(R. Robinson) Very dark blue, semidouble. Medium green, pointed, glossy, serrated, pointed gold crown variegated foliage if grown cool. Semiminiature.

****ROB'S SWEE' PEA** (6509) 2/20/87 (R. Robinson) White to light pink, green edges, double star. Medium green T.L. variegated pointed, lightly quilted, serrated foliage. Miniature.

***ROB'S TEMPTRESS** (6803) 1/4/88 (R. Robinson) Dark fuchsia red, ruffled, full double. Heavily serrated, scalloped, medium green and white gold crown variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

ROMANCER See Rob's Romancer

***ROYAL DOGWOOD** (6867) 3/12/88 (P. Brenner) Plum, white dogwood spot on tips, single. Dark green, plain foliage. Semiminiature.

***ROYAL GEM** (6812) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Purple two tone, variable darker shadings, double. Dark olive, quilted glossy, dark red reverse foliage. Standard.

ROYAL HALO (Boone) Royal blue semidouble to double. Dark green, pink and white variegated tailored foliage. Large.

ROYAL SENSATION (Lyon GH/Sorano)
Dark purple star, white edge, semidouble. Green, cream and yellow variegated foliage. Standard.

RUBICON TRAIL (B. Elkin) White semidouble. Wavy, pointed, medium green longifolia foliage. Miniature trailer.

RUBY LOU See Rainbow's Ruby Lou

***RUFFLED JOY** (6823) 1/25/88 (Pittman)
White, fuchsia eye, fringed, double. Ruffled, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

RUFFLED RASPBERRY (M. Burns)
Raspberry pink two-tone, fringed, pansy, semidouble. Glossy, heart-shaped, serrated foliage. Large.

RUFFLES-N-SWIRLS (Travis' Violets)
Large pale lavender to white, ruffled semidouble. Quilted foliage. Standard.

RUTHIE GEE (D. Wilson) Mauve rose

pansy, deeper striations, fine deep rose edge. Dark green and bronzy pink variegated foliage. Large.

S

SAILORS DANCE (Lyon GH/Sorano)

Light blue star, geneva edge, double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

SATIN HALO (Boone) Pastel pink two-tone double. Deep green and light pink variegated, tailored foliage. Large.

***SEA PRINCESS** (6751) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Semidouble, blue star. Green and white variegated, plain, ovate foliage. Semiminiature.

***SEA SPRAY** (6728) 10/9/87 (C. Sotkiewicz) Pink, with purple fantasy, semidouble. Dark green, some red reverse, rounded, heavily quilted foliage. Semiminiature trailer.

SECOND GLANCE (K. Stork) Large orchid-pink two-tone semidouble star. Quilted, deep green foliage. Standard.

SEDONA (K. Stork) Red semidouble star. Plain tailored foliage. Standard.

SENT FROM HEAVEN (Lyon GH/Sorano) White. Pink edge, semidouble. Medium green and white variegated foliage. Standard.

SHADOW MAGIC See Rob's Shadow Magic

***SHEER ROMANCE** (6752) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double pink star with geneva edge. Medium green ovate foliage. Large.

SHIRLEY'S DELIGHT See Ness's Shirley's Delight

***SILVER SEAS** (6857) 2/26/88 (B. Britt) Lavender and white multicolor, semidouble. Light green, plain, quilted, wavy foliage. Large.

SINCERELY WINSTON See Marie's Sincerely Winston

SLEEPER (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Medium pink center, edged deep pink, pansy semidouble. Black/green tailored foliage. Large.

***SLIGHTLY SASSY** (6753) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double lightly ruffled, pink star with dark pink edges. Medium green plain foliage. Large.

SNOW FIRE (Travis' Violets) White, pink shades and strips, semidouble. Green foliage. Standard.

SNOW PIXIE (Lyon GH/Sorano) Tiny white star, often green petal tips, double. Variegated foliage. Tiny miniature.

***SNOW SQUALL** (6754) 11/2/87 (Lyons GH/Sorano) Semidouble white star. Medium to dark green plain foliage. Large.

SNOWY DAZE See Ness's Snowy Daze
SNOWY GOLD See Rainbow's Snowy Gold

SNUGGLES CLOWN (Lyon GH/Sorano) Pink, lightly flecked orchid, semidouble. Green, pink and white variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

SNUGGLES LITTLE DREAMER (Lyon GH/Sorano) Light coral pink, geneva edge, double. Green, pink and white variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

SNUGGLES LIL PRINCE (Lyon GH/Sorano) Plum purple star, double. Green and white variegated foliage, some orchid tones. Semiminiature.

***SNUGGLES LOVE** (6755) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double white with light pink center. Medium green and white variegated plain foliage. Miniature.

***SNUGGLES SUNSHINE** (6756) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double fuchsia star. Green and white variegated plain foliage. Miniature.

***SOLAR BLUE** (6824) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Dark blue, geneva edge, double. Quilted, Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard.

***SOUTH BOUND** (6873) 3/19/88 (B. Sisk) Two-tone orchid, double. Green, pink and white variegated ruffled foliage. Large.

SPICY MAMA (Cox) Pink, purple fantasy. Deep green tailored foliage. Standard.

***SPRING FANCY** (6757) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Single, medium pink chimera star with blue fantasy all over petals, blue

center stripe. Dark green, white and pink variegated, plain, pointed foliage. Large.

STAGE LEFT See Rainbow's Stage Left

STAR BRITE (M. Burns) Dusty medium pink, slightly ruffled star, semidouble. Dark plain foliage. Very large.

STAR DREAM (Pittman) Dark blue, feathered white edge, ruffled double. Dark holly foliage. Standard.

***STAR DUST BLUE** (6758) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double light blue star. Medium green quilted foliage. Large.

STAR SHOT (Travis' Violets) Large violet blue to purple star, white edge. Pink and white variegated foliage. Large.

STARRY NIGHT (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large orchid, shading to white, fluted star, semi-double. Medium green foliage. Large.

STILLWATER COVE See Marie's Stillwater Cove

***STRIPED HONEY** (6825) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Pink and lavender, purple center stripe, single, chimera. Dark green, plain, pointed, red reverse foliage. Standard.

SUMMER LACE (Lyon GH/Sorano) White, blue edge, lightly ruffled may have random blue mottling, semidouble to double. Variegated foliage. Standard.

***SUMMER WINDS** (6826) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Lavender purple, semidouble. Medium green, plain, quilted, red reverse foliage. Standard.

SUMMIT See Yarrow Summit

***SUNDROPS** (6729) 10/9/87 (C. Sotkiewicz) Pink, with lavender fantasy and red petioles, double star. Medium green, quilted, fringed, heart-shaped foliage. Semiminiature trailer.

***SUNSHINE PRINCE** (6759) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double fuchsia star. Dark green, red backed, quilted foliage. Large.

SUPERCHARM Rainbow's Supercharm

SWEET DELIGHT (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large frilly white and lavender semi-double. Medium green foliage. Standard.

***SWEET PRALINE** (6774) 11/9/87 (B. Sisk) Medium blue, ruffled double. Variegated foliage with a pink & white foliage. Large.

***SWEET SOPHIE** (6868) 3/12/88 (P. Brenner) Two-tone pink, semidouble. Medium green, plain, light green reverse. Semiminiature.

T

TEMPTRESS See Rob's Temptress

TEXAS DAYDREAM (B. Elkin) Fuchsia red, pale pink center stripe, some green fringed edges, single. Dark green wavy foliage. Standard.

****TEXAS SUNBONNET** (6669) 6/1/87 (B. Bryant) Pink, two-tone, single-semidouble star. Dark green, ovate, longifolia, quilted, wavy, pointed, variegated foliage. Large.

***THINK TWICE** (6827) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Pink double. Medium green, plain, quilted foliage. Miniature.

***THIS BUD'S MINE** (6878) 4/25/88 (D. Wilson) Dark blue, sometimes a touch of pink, ruffled, double. Dark blue-green quilted, glossy foliage with red reverse. Large.

THREE BELLS See Marie's Three Bells

***TINKER TOY** (6718) 8/22/87 (A.E. Adams) Lavender, deep mauve eye, single. Light green, quilted, pointed, hairy foliage. Miniature.

***TONY'S EXTRAVAGANZA** (6780) 11/23/87 (T. Foote) Red, ruffled, double. Plain, slightly wavy, Tommie Lou variegated with some pink, red reverse foliage. Standard.

TOOCH (K. Stork) Large pale lavender-pink, purple fantasy, fluted double star. Broad medium-to-dark green tailored foliage. Standard.

***TOY CASTLE** (6760) 11/2/87 (Lyon GH/Sorano) Double lavender fringed bell. Green, pink and cream variegated, plain, glossy foliage. Miniature.

TUPPENCE (B. Elkin) White star, orchid eye and stripes, some green fringe edge, single. Plain foliage. Miniature.

TWILIGHT HALO (Boone) Deep violet blue, fine white edge, fluted double. Tailored medium green and cream variegated foliage. Standard.

V

VELVET HALO (Boone) Purple semi-double. Dark green and lavender-pink variegated foliage. Standard.

***VERA IRENE** (6881) 5/14/88 (J. Loder) Coral pink, two-tone, deep coral petal tips, double. Dark green, quilted foliage, dark red reverse. Semiminiature.

VERTIGO (B. Elkin) Orchid star, blue lavender center stripes and fantasy spots, single. Dark green foliage. Semiminiature.

VIKING QUEEN See Ness's Viking Queen
VIOLET FEVER (Travis' Violets) Hot pink, blue fantasy markings, semidouble. Green foliage. Standard.

W

***WATERSPRITE** (6730) 10/9/87 (C. Sotkiewicz) White and pink fantasy, with dark purple tips, double star. Medium green, quilted, fringed, ovate foliage. Semiminiature trailer.

***WAY OUT** (6828) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Pink and lavender, semidouble, chimera. Dark green, plain, quilted, red reverse foliage. Standard.

***WEE BE** (6829) 1/25/88 (Pittman) Fuchsia, wide geneva edge, semidouble. Plain, red reverse, dark green Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

WEE SHAINA (B. Elkin) White star, red side stripes, single. Medium green foliage. Semiminiature.

***WELSH SUNSET** (6858) 2/26/88 (B. Britt) Red, double. Dark green, plain, quilted foliage with red reverse. Large.

WHATTA GAL (Pittman) Hot pink double. Dark green tailored foliage. Semiminiature.

***WHITE CAMEO** (6767) 11/9/87 (F. Tinari) White, double. Medium green, quilted,

heart-shaped foliage. Standard.

WHITE SWAN See Flo's White Swan

WHITE TRIBUTE (Pittman) White double. Dark green tailored foliage. Standard.

WHITE KNIGHT (M. Burns) White, sometimes pink in center, double. Tommie Lou variegation. Large.

WILDFIRE (Lyon GH/Sorano) Large fuchsia star, semidouble. Medium to dark green red-backed foliage. Standard.

***WILMA CULVER** (6880) 5/13/88 (Capital City AVS/Nadeau) Single, lavender two-tone, star with darker upper petals and slight dark edge. Pointed variegated foliage. Standard.

***WINTER FUN** (6830) 1/25/88 (Pittman) White with blue, double. Light green, plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

WOW-ME (Travis' Violets) Large lavender, darker shades, double. Dark quilted foliage. Standard.

****WRANGLER'S GREEN PASTURES** (6223) 5/20/86 (W. Smith) White, green edge, rose-mauve streaks double fringed bloom. Ruffled slightly glossy variegated foliage. Standard.

***WUNNERFUL** (6719) 8/22/87 (A.E. Adams) Deep lavender two-tone, deeper eye, semidouble. Pointed Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Miniature.

Y

***YARROW BRIAR ROSE** (6721) 9/12/87 (J. Loder) White, pink edged petals and slight purple fantasy, double star, chimera. Light green, plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

***YARROW DAWN** (6882) 5/14/88 (J. Loder) Pale green, lavender and white multicolor, ruffled, double. Quilted, wavy, dark green and yellow variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

***YARROW SUMMIT** (6722) 9/12/87 (J. Loder) White, center lavender blue stripe, single star, chimera. Medium green quilted almost round foliage. Standard.

***YASUYO** (6813) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Medium pink, blue center stripe and blue fantasy flecks, single, chimera. Dark green, quilted, pointed, hairy, dark red reverse foliage. Standard.

***YASUYO SPORT** (6814) 1/15/88 (Granger's/Eyerdom) Dark pink, blue center stripe and blue fantasy flecks, double, chimera. Dark green, quilted, pointed,

hairy, dark red reverse foliage. Standard.
YOUNG MAN'S FANCY (Jeannette's Jesneriads) Light blue, darker eye, double. Medium green tailored foliage. Large.

****YVONNE** (6671) 6/1/87 (B. Bryant) Rose-pink, two-tone, dark edge, slight geneva edge, fringed single-semidouble star. Dark variegated, quilted, ovate, slightly wavy foliage. Large.

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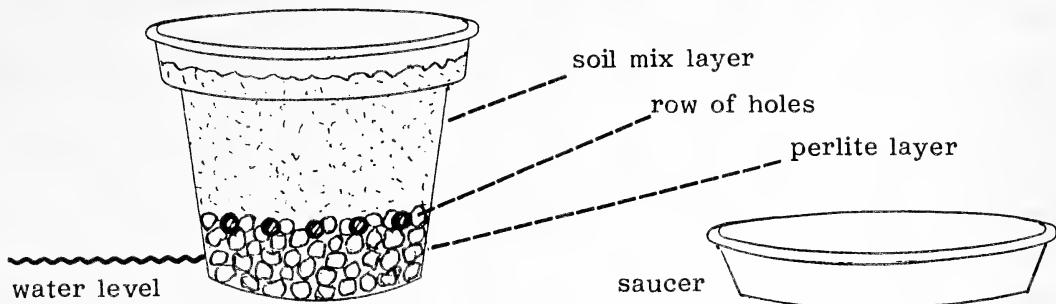
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See photographs and Stock No. of emblems in past issues of the African Violet Magazine

TEXAS-STYLE POTTING METHOD



Pot Type	perlite layer	soil layer	free space	pot depth	water depth	watering interval
2-1/2" pot	1/2"	1-1/2"	1/4"	2-1/4"	variable	3 to 4 days
4" tub	1"	1-3/4"	3/4"	3-1/2"	1/4" to 1/2"	4 to 5 days
5" tub	1"	2-1/4"	3/4"	4"	1/4" to 1/2"	4 to 5 days
6", 7", 8" tub	1-1/4"	2-1/2"	3/4"	4-1/2"	1/4" to 1/2"	5 to 6 days
4" Oyama	1-3/4"	2"	3/4"	4-1/2" inner pot	line 1 or 2 outer pot	5 to 6 days
5" Oyama	1-1/2"	2"	3/4"	4-1/4" inner pot	line 1 or 2 outer pot	5 to 6 days
6" Oyama	1-3/4"	2-1/4"	3/4"	4-3/4" inner pot	line 1 or 2 outer pot	6 to 7 days

Texas-Style Watering Methods

Demand: Each plant is watered when it needs or "demands" it. Need is determined by the heft of the pot and the feel of the top of the soil. This method is impractical for the grower who has more than just a few African violets. Each plant would have to be checked almost daily.

Visual Replacement: This method was developed by Kenneth Bowman for the customers of his African violet nursery. The plants are potted Texas-Style using 1-1/2" of perlite (the minimum requirement for this method of watering). A dilute fertilizer solution (1/4") is added to the saucer which should be about

2" larger than the diameter of the pot. When the solution has been used up (no longer visible), another 1/4" of solution is added to the saucer. This is an excellent method for the casual grower.

Schedule: Any grower with more than just a few African violets should use this method. The schedule is determined by the plant that needs watering first—the rest are watered whether they need it or not! Actually the schedule is determined by the pot type and the weather. The watering intervals can be predicted accurately within a day or two. This, combined with the margin for error provided by Texas-Style, gives an almost foolproof way to water Afri-

can violets. The interval between watering can be adjusted by a day or two to accommodate changes in the weather. However, this should not vary much since the violet room should be kept at a reasonably even temperature and humidity the year around.

Watering Schedule

On the scheduled watering day, a fully-rooted mature plant, or any plant where the soil is barely moist, receives the maximum amount of water. A young plant with a just-developing root system, or any plant where the soil is still quite moist, receives just enough water to keep it going until the next scheduled watering day.

Some growers water all of their plants on the same day. Others prefer to set up a schedule for each type of container they grow in. Either way, it is important to post a watering schedule in the plant room. You will be amazed at how quickly four days or even six days will pass. Choosing a separate schedule for each type of pot may mean more frequent watering times; however, the length of time spent watering will be shorter. This may fit in even better with a busy grower's schedule.

OVAMA PLANTERS

day/date	days	day/date	days
Sun. 5-19	6	Sun. 7-7	6
Sat. 5-25	6	Fri. 7-12	5
Fri. 6-31	6	Wed. 7-17	5
Thurs. 6-6	6	mon. 7-22	5
Wed. 6-12	6		
Tues. 6-18	6		
mon. 6-24	6		
mon. 7-1	7		
	over!		

NOTE: The Texas-Style potting method allows for occasional off-schedule watering. If you plan to be away from home on watering day, water in advance. Apply a smaller quantity, then readjust the watering schedule.

Preparing Pots for Texas-Style

Place a series of 1/4" holes around the tub pot indicating the juncture of the perlite and soil mix layers. The holes may be spaced from 1" apart on 4" pots, up to 1-1/2" apart on larger pots. The depth will depend on the size of the pot. The holes should be large enough for tools such as ice picks or nut picks may be inserted into them.

If the saucer surface and the bottom of the pot are smooth, a vacuum may form which will block the uptake of water. In that case, burn a hole in the side of the pot at the bottom seam to ensure the free flow of water. Only one hole needs to be added to the

Oyama Planter. Make a small oval hole at the top of the perlite layer so the root ball can be lifted by repositioning the tool along under the root ball until it loosens.

The holes are not primarily to provide aeration to the root system. Sufficient aeration is supplied through the exposed surface of the soil, the shallow layer of soil, and air entering from the holes in the bottom of the pot. Texas-Style will work without the additional holes, but they do serve several purposes.

1. The depth of the perlite is indicated for potting up purposes.

2. The depth of the perlite will be evident when adding water to the saucers.

3. A tool can be pushed through the holes to life up the root ball and loosen it from the pot. The perlite layer is usually not saved when repotting.

Heating Plastic

To make the holes, heat a 1/4" Phillips-head screw driver or similar sized metal rod. This can be done in the open flame of a gas range or by laying it on the heating element of an electric range turned to the highest setting. An electric soldering iron may also be used.

Caution: Plastics give off toxic fumes when heated. Run the range exhaust fan or use a small fan that will direct the fumes away from you.

(Reprinted from "Growing To Show," with author's permission.)



Winners of the Springfield Chapter AVS are shown left to right: Ethel Campbell, Best Design, "Wilson's Creek Battlefield"; Helen Bellinger, Best in Show, Sport of Bobbie, AVSA collection, City of Angels, Granger's Camelot Pink and Cherry Ice; and Paul Bellinger, runner-up in sweepstakes.

Hybridizing

Mary Ann Corrigan
106 Trailridge
Richardson, Texas 75081
(A synopsis of her program given at the Dallas Convention)

Hybridizing is the way new plants are created by scientific manipulation; or the controlled messing around by man. A successful hybridizing program is one of genetic improvement. Let us take a hypothetical case: you have a beautiful plant, foliage wise; however, the blossom is insignificant and it is a shy bloomer. To produce this same plant with large and abundant blossoms would be a genetic improvement. A cultivated variety or cultivar is called a hybrid. And what is a hybrid plant? A hybrid plant is one produced from a seed by cross pollinating two different species plants or two different varieties. A plant produced by the crossing of two different hybrids is called a crossbreed.

There are 22 species African violets. All have been found in Africa. Only three have played a major role in producing today's hybrid plants. They are ionantha, confusa, and with the advent of the trailer, grotei. The species plants are a far cry from what we grow and see today. They all had single blossoms and were shades of purple or blue. The plants most grown today are hybrid plants or they are nature's own creations, which are called sports or mutants. The first color change appeared when two Blue Boy plants were cross pollinated. Blue Boy was one of the original hybrid plants. The new color was red.

The hybridizers main concern is the role played by the chromosome. The chromosome is found in all living things, plant and animal. The chromosome is the narrow heredity bridge between parent and the progeny. The chromosome is found in the egg of the mother plant and the pollen grain of the father plant. The chromosome is a group of chemicals formed into a rod-shaped body. These chemicals are called genes. The arrangement of these chemicals is all important as to the characteristics of traits carried by the chromosome. The molecule responsible for the arrangement of the genes is an acid called DNA. Occasionally the genes or chemicals are altered spontaneously by Mother Nature. The result is a

plant called a mutant or sport.

Every cell in the plant, the cells in the roots, stems, leaves, flowers, all have 30 chromosomes. Fifteen come from the mother and 15 come from the father. The original 15 are called haploid. Combined into 30, they are called diploid. Occasionally the chromosome number changes. The Amazon or Supreme violet has 60 chromosomes. In this case the cell wall between two cells was absent, allowing these cells to become one. Thus, each cell had double the number of chromosomes. These plants were quite large — large leaves and large flowers; however, the foliage was brittle and the flowers few. Then when the Supreme plant was crossed onto a plant with the normal number of chromosomes, the result was a plant with 45 chromosomes in the cells. These plants were quite sturdy, had good foliage, and were prolific bloomers. As you can see, the African violet has some interesting brothers and sisters.

Chromosomes share the minute cell space with cytoplasm and plastids. Plastids are a cytoplasmic material that produces chlorophyll, a green substance that makes the food for the plant. Sometimes, Mother Nature makes a mistake and the plastids stop producing the chlorophyll. Now, we have a plant with variegated foliage. This is really a marvelous mistake — these are some of our most beautiful plants. The cytoplasmic material is not inherited by the way of the chromosome. It is only transmitted by the mother plant to the next generation. Therefore, in order to produce a batch of variegated seedlings, the mother must be variegated. The father plant has nothing to do with producing variegation in the progeny because variegation is not an inherited trait. I have been told that there has been variegation in seedlings without the mother being variegated. This is of course possible — the plastids can stop production of chlorophyll in any plant at any time. But if your objective is variegation in your seedlings, the mother must be variegated.

The next thing the hybridizers must understand are the three laws that govern the chromosome. These are the rules that determine how resemblances and differences will be transmitted from parents to offspring — not only for one generation, but many generations hence. So, to improve the African violet the hybridizers need a working knowledge of genetics.

The first law is the law of linkage. This law says that every chromosome must have a partner — they never travel alone. One partner comes from the mother and one from the father. For instance, the chromosome for the single blossom takes as its partner the chromosome for the double blossom. The chromosome for the star blossom takes for its partner the regular African violet blossom. Now color and leaf type are on the same chromosome. That means color and leaf type are inseparable. When raising a group of seedlings, this fact is quite noticeable as you study the plants. However, there is a process by which the color gets on to another type of leaf. This process is called crossover. Remember, the cell space is very small and the chromosomes must lie across each other. Occasionally the chromosomes will break or split. At this point, it will join on to another chromosome with another color. In this way, many new eras of the African violet world are produced. An example is the pink flower on girl leaves.

The second law is the law of independent assortment. This law deal with more than one pair of chromosomes. To put it simply, it says half the chromosomes come from the mother and half from the father. This does not mean that half the offspring will be like the mother and half like the father. There will be pairing of chromosomes that have never been paired before, thus creating different plants. As the chromosomes from the mother and father pair, they still retain their own separate traits and work independently of each other — partners or not. That is to say, the chromosome for the double blossom will always be double, even though it has for its partner, the chromosome for the single blossom.

The third and most important of the laws is the law of segregation. The hybridizers must understand this law. This law deals with only one pair of chromosomes. A simplistic explanation of this law is that there are dominant characteristics and recessive characteristics. When the chromosomes pair, the dominant trait is always expressed. The recessive characteristic is then hidden. Some of the dominant

traits are the color purple and blue, recessive is pink, red, white. Doubles are dominant over singles, girl leaves are dominant over boy leaves, standard African violet blossoms are dominant over star blossoms. When the dominant trait is expressed, there is no sign of the recessive trait in the outward plant. However, in succeeding crosses the recessive characteristics will emerge. *What goes in must come out.* There is another trait called incomplete dominance. As it says, incomplete. The dominant trait takes a vacation of sorts — it just cannot decide to express itself completely. This trait is responsible for our fantasy and multicolored flowers. However, it is a most unstable characteristic, which drives hybridizers and growers crazy. So often, the incomplete dominant characteristic decides to become dominant, so what was a fantasy flower or a multicolored flower is now a solid color flower. The hybridizer is not at fault in producing this instability — it is just the nature of the African violet plant.

Hybridizers will often want to reclaim the recessive or hidden traits. There are two methods of doing this. The first method is to select two of the best seedlings from the original cross which is referred to as F_1 and cross these two plants. The second method is to select one of the F_1 seedlings and cross it on to one of the parent plants. This method is called back crossing. These two methods add an extra chance of the recessive chromosomes to pair and be expressed. Remember, in order for a recessive chromosome to be expressed, it must have a recessive chromosome for a partner. That is the only way the recessive trait can get out and show up in the outward plant.

Now to summarize these three laws. First, the law of linkage says chromosomes must take a partner — they never travel alone. Second, the law of independent assortment says one partner comes from the mother and one comes from the father. But each of the partners remain independent of each other — they don't become one. Third, the law of segregation says there are two traits — dominant and recessive. The dominant, if its partner is recessive will always be expressed. The only way the recessive trait can be expressed is to have a recessive partner.

The violet is bisexual. It contains the female part called the pistil. The pistil contains the ovary with the eggs, the style, and the stigma. The male part is called the stamen which contains the anther and the filament. The anther contains the pollen, a yellow dust like substance that is the fertilizing agent. The

stigma becomes sticky 3-4 days after the flower opens. The pollen will stick at this time and then travel down the style to the eggs. If fertilization takes place the ovary will begin to swell within 14 days. The seed pod must remain on the plant at least 3 months in order to be mature. After the seed pod becomes mature and begins to die off, remove from the plant and allow it to dry for a month.

This is the story of how our hybridizers produce new and wonderful plants. Hybridizing is much more than planting seeds and hoping for a good plant. The objective is perfection and superiority. Hybridizers must be selective, whether they are amateur or professional. We owe a great debt to our hybridizers and the work they do.

Hybridizing Glossary

Anther: Male part of the flower that contains the pollen grains.

Back-Cross: Method used to strengthen the recessive traits by crossing F_1 seedling with one of the parent plants.

Chromosome: The narrow hereditary bridge between the parent plants and progeny. It is a rod shaped body made up of a group of chemicals called genes. Each cell of the plant contains 30 chromosomes; 15 from the mother and 15 from the father.

Cross-Breed: The offspring produced from crossing two hybrid plants.

Cross-Over: Process by which chromosomes break apart in the cell and fuse with another chromosome.

Cross-Pollinating: The act of transferring the pollen from the anthers of one plant to the stigma of another plants flower.

Cultivar: Named horticultural variety as distinguished from a natural variety of a species. Shortened form of the expression "cultivated variety."

Cytoplasm: Material sharing the minute cell space with the chromosomes. This substance is not controlled by the chromosome, but is passed from one generation to the next by the maternal parent.

DNA: (Deoxyribonucleic acid) Chromosome chemical responsible for determination and transmission of hereditary characteristics.

Dominant Trait: A characteristic that is passed on by one parent and is expressed at the expense of a characteristic passed on by the other parent. The RECESSIVE TRAIT is the unexpressed characteristic.

F_1 : the first hybrid generation following a cross.

F_2 : The offspring produced by crossing two F_1 hybrids. Method used to strengthen recessive traits. This generation will be more varied than the F_1 generation.

Filament: A stalk bearing the anther at the top.

Gene: A functional hereditary unit that occupies a fixed location in a chromosome. The gene transmits traits and usually involves a single function.

Hybrid: The offspring produced by cross-pollination of two different varieties or two different species.

Hybridizing: The breeding of two genetically different parents in order to develop hybrids that demonstrate finer traits than the parent plants.

Incomplete Dominance: The dominant trait does not completely repress recessive chromosomes. Responsible for fantasy or multicolored flowers. This is a very unstable characteristic. Also known as a split gene.

Mutant: The chemicals in the chromosomes are spontaneously changed or altered, producing a completely different plant. Also referred to as a sport.

Ovary: The part of the pistil containing the eggs. Eventually becomes the seed pod.

Pistil: the female part of the plant. The three parts of the pistil are the ovary, the style, and the stigma.

Plastid: Cytoplasmic substance that produce chlorophyll in the cell.

Pollen: Dustlike yellow particles that function as male fertilizing agents. When the pollen grain fuses with an egg, a seed is conceived.

Selfed: Transference of pollen of the anther to the stigma of the same flower. Also called self-pollination.

Stamen: the male part of the plant which consists of the anther and the filament.

Stigma: The upper part of the pistil which receives the pollen grains. When it is ready to receive the pollen, the stigma becomes sticky enabling the pollen to stick.

Species: A group of plants naturally having certain distinctive and constant characteristics.

Style: the connecting stalk between the stigma and ovary.

The Laws

Law of Segregation: This law deals with one pair of chromosomes, one from the mother and one from the father. Simply stated, there are dominant and recessive traits. The offspring will carry the recessive traits.

sive trait and this trait will eventually show itself in an F generation. *What goes in must come out!* In order for the recessive trait to show, both the chromosome partners must be recessive. If one of the partners is dominant, then the recessive trait is hidden.

Law of Independent Assortment: This law deals with two or more pairs of chromosomes. It means that half of the offspring will be like the mother and half will be like the father. This does not mean the progeny will breed true to parent plants since chromosomes are in pairs that have not been partners before. However, it does mean that half of the chromosomes will be like the mother and half like the father.

Law of Linkage: Each chromosome takes a partner, one from the mother and one from the father. For instance, the chromosome for double blossom takes for its partner the chromosome for the single blossom. Color and leaf shape, however, are carried on the same chromosome. Without the process of crossover there would not be the wide assortment of various colors on different leaf types. They would be like the mother or like the father. This does not mean the progeny will breed true to parent plants since chromosomes are in pairs that have not been partners before; however, it does mean that half of the chromosomes will be like the mother and half like the father.

Underwater Flower Arrangements

*Julie Adams
Nutmeg State
186 Waverly Road
Shelton, CT 06484*

Underwater flower arrangements are arrangements that are completely submerged in water, and exhibited in transparent containers.

The purpose of these designs is the same as the other interpretive arrangements, namely, to display our African violet blossoms in an aesthetic and artistic manner. The African violet blossoms should be the center of interest in your design. The blossoms should be supported and accentuated by interesting line and plant material to bring your eye to them. In this category all plant material should be cut, and in excellent condition.

In the interpretive design classes, the interpretation of the title of the class, is our aim. This does not mean that the interpretation has to be literal. It could be suggestive, and it could be very obvious. This is your choice. I feel that suggestive is most often the better of the two ways.

In order to execute your design, you must follow the elements and principles of design, as in other design classes. These are listed and explained in the AVSA Handbook. Study and understand them and your design work will go along easily.

To begin your underwater design:

1. Select your container — it should be of clear glass with no etching or design. Any pattern or design in the glass will be distracting to your design. Some of the ones suitable to use are clear pitchers, brandy snifters, apothecary jars, bowls, some fish aquariums or fish bowls that are all clear glass, large mugs, and the bubble bowls.

2. Select your plant material, keeping in mind that everything you put into your container will be magnified considerably. Depending on the thickness of the glass, and the shape of the container as to how much it will magnify when the water is added. A round bowl will definitely magnify more than a vertical pitcher, or straightsided glass. Every imperfection will magnify and show, so use precaution.

3. Wash all plant material that you are going to use to be sure all dirt is washed off. Prune out all damaged foliage and other imperfections. Be selective with all the components.

4. Select your violet blossoms, choosing some buds, and freshly opened blooms of varieties that have substance. These will hold up better, and are

less likely to deteriorate.

5. Do your arrangement in advance and try it in your container, with the water, making adjustments as needed.

6. If using a bubble bowl, your design will have to be inverted, so be extra sure that all your materials are very secure.

Necessary, are the best mechanics available to hold it all together. Basically the same mechanics may be used that you use for a standard design, except for the materials that conceal your mechanics. You may use a pin holder anchored with cling; floral clay anchored with cling; floral tape covered plastic straws to hold stems. These can be anchored down with cling before water is added. Fine annealed wire, florist thread or clear fish line may be used to hold fine line and foliage together before anchoring to base. To cover the pin holder, you can use fine pebbles, tiny stones, tiny shells, clear marbles, marble chips, or glass chips. (A good source for glass chips are broken windshields. This glass doesn't shatter and isn't sharp.) If using pebbles, gravel or marble chips, be sure to wash well until water is clear. I have used a neatly cut piece of plastic foam as a base in a bowl or snifter, etc., and it works well.

Some designers use a glue gun, and in underwater designs works quite well, as the plant material can absorb water through the stems, leaves, and blossoms to stay fresh. This isn't possible in standard arrangements.

The Underwater Arrangement Procedure:

1. Have your container, mechanics and plant material all in readiness.

2. Establish your line, anchor it well.

3. Place foliage and blossoms in supportive positions.

4. Anchor pin holder to bottom of cover if using a bubble bowl, and work accordingly. Invert into water.

5. If using other type of container, insert into dry container when design is completed, and anchor well. Add water, a little at a time, pouring onto glass container sides, not onto design itself.

Reminders:

1. Keep design simple

2. Emphasize line

3. Keep everything clear and uncluttered

4. Color and size are very important

5. Do not have any part of your material above water level

6. Do not bruise blossoms

7. Make sure plant material doesn't touch sides or top of container

The water you use:

1. Do not use chemically treated water

2. Do not use heavily chlorinated water

3. Do not use warm water

4. Draw your water a couple of days before needed; let it stand in an open container

5. Distilled water is safe to use and keeps plant material in good condition

(Air bubbles in your container are not penalized. Sometimes they enhance the design when they appear on flowers or foliage edges.) Listed are a few suggestions as to plant materials that work well and hold up well when they are immersed in water: For line - willow branches, bittersweet vine, wisteria vine, corylus contorta, spirea, forsythia, ivy, barberry, cotoneaster, flowering almond. For foliage - boxwood, fine juniper, yew, vinca, Swedish ivy, small leaved ivy, episcia, columnea, tradescantia, asparagus fern, pachysandra, ajuga. In closing — enjoy the art of flower arranging and the challenge of a new experience.

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PS Form 3526, Dec. 1971

Putting On Airs

Evelyn Stein
22 Westham Green
Richmond, VA 23229

The Alerted Advocate

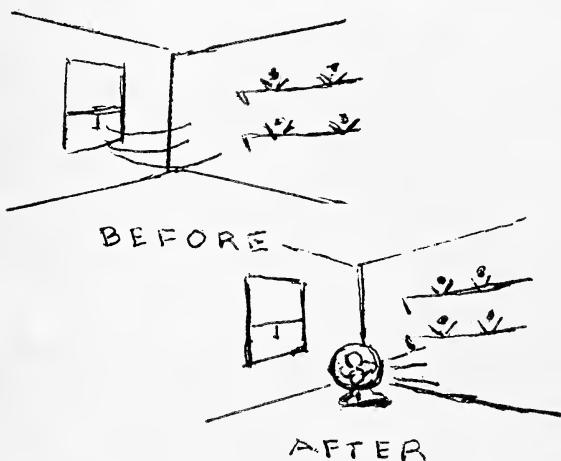
Norman L. Gordon, Sr.
833 Foxen Canyon Road
Santa Maria, CA 93454

We all have read that plants need sufficient ventilation; but how much, we ask, is sufficient? In my case a few gentle zephyrs from an open window on the opposite wall wasn't enough. On a nice spring day - maybe, but not in the heat of the summer.

I thought I solved this problem when I bought a 12" oscillating fan that sits on the floor in the corner of the room. Running the fan for a few hours a day, I noticed a great improvement in the appearance of the plants. The leaves looked perkier and the colors looked brighter. Well, what else? What else was when I went away in the summer for only one week and came back to find three plants absolutely kaput (even though my air conditioner was set on 78°). But the fan was off. I realized I would have to replace the missing air circulation the plants had gotten used to. At this point, I decided to plug my fan into one of the outlets controlled by a timer which turns my plant lights on and off so that my fan would be running the length of the light span (8 hours a day). And, much to my delight, the strategy worked. When I returned from my next trip, I came back to find all my old familiar plants alive and I might add, in blooming good health. Now, this fan strategy has become part of my going away ritual.

So, after these experiences, I say to you, "Be a snob."

When it comes to your plants — put on airs!



I thoroughly appreciated the article appearing in the September issue of African Violet Magazine, "The Supermarket Violet" or "How To Change Your Life." Certainly my experiences with growing African violets for less than five years, have been similar to that of Valerie Fontanesi as expressed in the article, and has conditioned me to understand the reference to blood suckers, thrips, yes even the petiole that I sometime feel I am, due to holding the afflicted leaves of an African violet.

At the present I am nurturing fifteen varieties of these sensitive but beautiful creatures, and as a stubborn advocate I am certainly not without the required suffering for every minute of proprietorship.

For many years I have taken pride in the results of my knowledge of Botany and have practiced the husbandry of plants on a religious basis. However, if there is another enemy of the African violet which I have not met in battle head on, and at times felt I was loosing the engagement, I don't want to know about it. On second thought, aphids have not been my lot, and my Maker has so far spared me from suicidal "stunt."

In view of the above problems my pride has suffered a severe scar, although I feel my head is still above water and poised for the next tidal wave. I usually meet such a crisis with eight bottles of liquid, two containers of granules, six aerosols, and a five gallon bucket of tears. At this point though, I am somewhat encouraged. I hope to set the art of growing African violets on automatic pilot with my new equipment: a humidifier, a room air purifier, four fans, a dehumidifier, a heater, and a big sign at the door, "Enter in sock feet only."

Send all Coming Event notices to:
Jane Birge
P.O. Box 1401
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Maverick's Bronco Buster

WINSTON SMITH

Wrangler's Shadow Riders



Scaled Down Designs

*Julie Adams
Nutmeg State
186 Waverly Road
Shelton, CT 06484*

According to the defined rules set by AVSA, the design division in African violet shows has been divided into three sections. Both amateur and commercial members are eligible to make entries in these sections.

This article deals with the "Interpretive Flower Arrangements," mainly "Scaled Down Designs" using African violet blossoms, and other cut plant material. To be correctly executed, there are certain requirements that the exhibitors must familiarize themselves with:

1. The Schedule - This is the law of the show and the exhibitor should understand it, and follow it very carefully. The dimensions should be specifically stated, as to height, width and depth. When the exhibitor makes an entry in the specified class, the space should be utilized to its best potential. Namely, the design should fill the space well, but not exceed it in any way. A good way to be sure of this is to cut a piece of cardboard to duplicate the correct dimensions, and practice the design.

2. Choice of Container - The container should not be so large that the plant material looks like it is being swallowed by it. It has to be in proportion to the size of the space where it is to be placed. It should preferably be of a neutral color, such as green, gray, black, beige, or a dulled metal, driftwood, or whatever may be suitable to the category of the class the entry is made in.

3. Type of Design - A line design is usually the best choice for doing a "scaled down design" or interpretive arrangement. These require little plant material, and are usually easier to handle. The line is the visual path that the eye follows. It can be straight, curved, diagonal, vertical, etc. The curved lines are the ones that create the rhythm, and are usually the most graceful.

The length of the line is determined by the space allowed in the schedule, as well as the size of the container. To determine the length of the line, measure the height and width of the container, add them

together and make your line at least 1-1/2 times that measurement. If space allows, the line could be longer, but not shorter. If the line material is very thin, the line may be strengthened by adding height. It is advisable not to exceed this line by adding more plant material beyond it. The plant material should not touch the sides or back of a niche, if one is used.

4. Plant Material - Choose plant material that holds up well. A woody or twiggy type of line material is best. It may be willow, wisteria, spirea, forsythia, ivy, etc., any linear material that is not too stiff may be used. You can wire it to suit your need and condition it well in advance, then remove the wire and it should hold its shape. Small foliage should be used in small designs, and must be conditioned well. African violet blossoms must also be well conditioned.

To condition the blossoms, one must first water the plant the day before, and let it become turgid. Cut the nearly opened buds and blossoms near the base of the stem, and immerse the stem up to the bloom in tepid water. Put in a cool place, overnight to condition. Placing them with the container, in a plastic bag helps to condition the blossoms even better.

When placing the blossoms in the arrangement, recut the stems, under water, to the desired length. This enables the stem to take up the water better. The other fresh material should also be conditioned and treated in this same manner.

In choosing blossoms for your design choose those from plants that have strong stems, flowers that are upright, have good substance, good color, and are freshly opened. It is far better to use just one variety in a design, rather than several colors. Too many colors in a small design are disturbing and too busy.

The blossoms should not be any more than 1/3 the size of the container to keep in good scale and proportion.

5. Mechanics - Your arrangement will be only as good as the materials you use. Choose good pin holders, with sharp pins that are very close together.

The stems of African violet blossoms are delicate and have to be treated gently in order to hold up where they are placed. Wrapping a thin soda straw with floral tape makes a good artificial stem into which you can insert the blossom stem. This can easily be placed into the pin holder or oasis if you choose to use it.

6. Putting It All Together -

- A. Set up a background (dimensions as stated in the schedule)
- B. Lay a piece of plastic down to work on
- C. Prepare your container with pin holder or oasis. If using a pin holder, container and pin holder must be dry, and use cling to anchor pin holder. If using oasis, wet it and tape it in place if necessary. Use deluxe oasis if you can. It does not crumble as easily as the instant.
- D. Establish your line in your container
- E. Add foliage to support your line
- F. Add blossoms by placing buds and smaller blooms at top and gradually increase the size
- G. Be sure to add some plant material to the back to create depth
- H. Mist with water; be sure to have ample water in container
- I. Check blossoms, plant material, and water as small containers dry out quickly. Replenish water and replace faded blooms as needed.

Reminder: Never use the American flag, artificial plant material, or live creatures in any design class. Have fun.

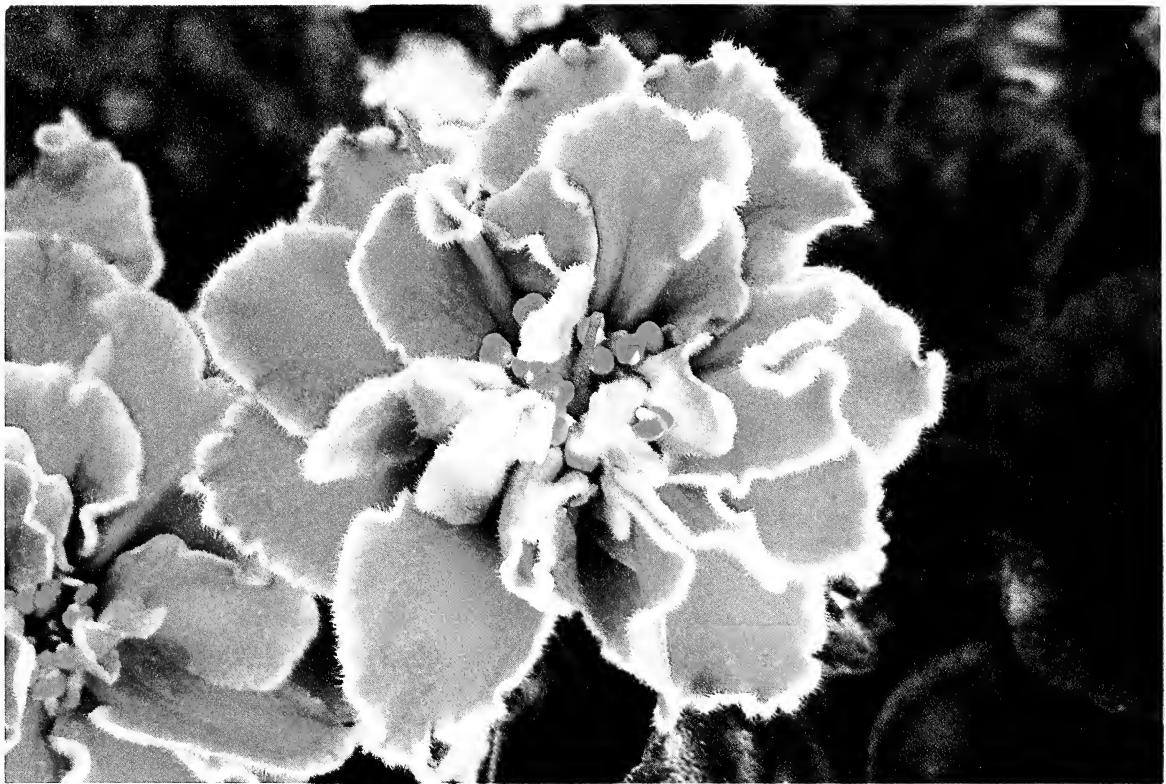
Enjoy the art of flower arranging with nature's most beautiful media - live plant material and African violets.



"Violets Win An Oscar" was the theme of the Long Island AVS' recent show. Pictured holding her Queen of Show, Southern Ivory, is Frances Bermann. Chairman Dolores O'Sullivan presents the award.



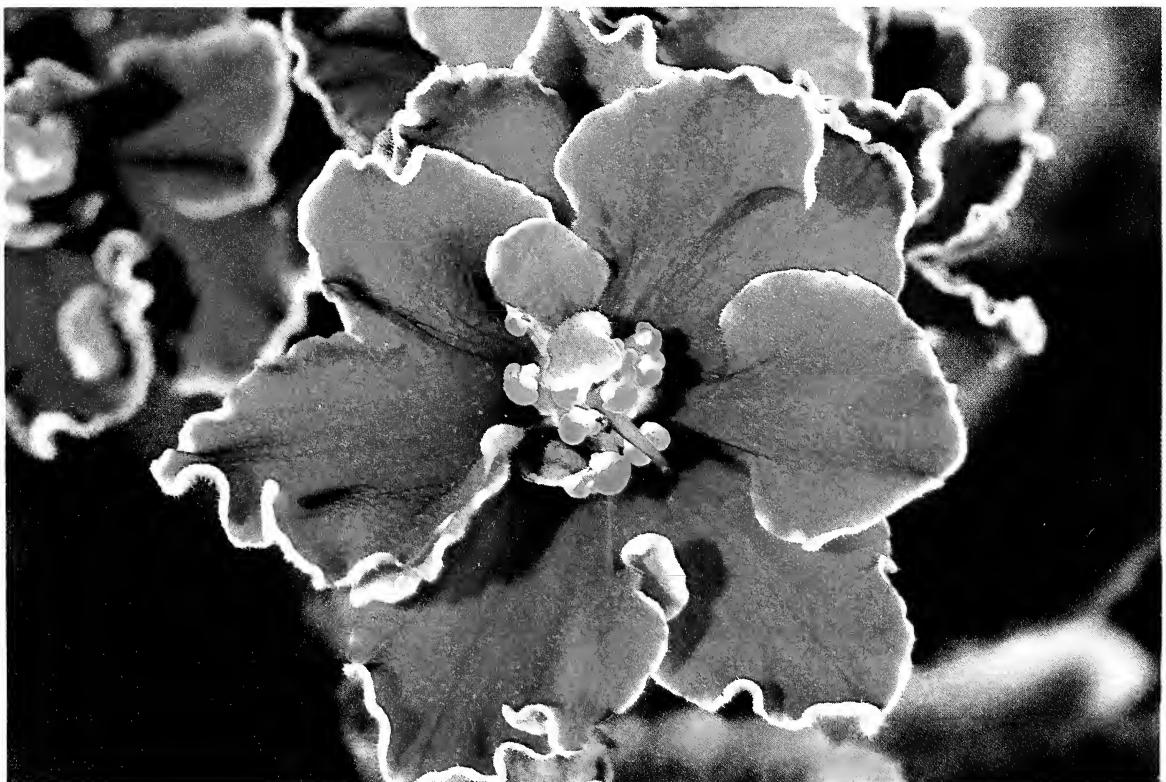
Honey Geck is pictured with her best horticulture entry, Kiss't and her terrarium which was best in arrangement at the Tustana AVS show, "Violets Take a Vacation." Honey also won sweepstakes.



Sailors Dance

LYNDON LYON GREENHOUSES
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Royal Sensation



Species African Violets

Carla Petra Pavone
Originally published in 1979
House Plants & Porch Gardens
Scrambling Press Inc.

The African violet is the most civilized house plant in existence. Generations of determined hybridizing have smoothed away the plant's socially unacceptable rough edges. Offensive bud drop has been banished. Scraggly foliage growth has been tightened up, while lanky flower stalks have been shortened. There is no trace of messiness left on the well-trained *saintpaulia* to embarrass the indoor gardener.

Growers' efforts also have made the polite African violet more beautiful every year. The flowers' color range has been extended so far that the only remaining unconquered shades are orange, yellow and scarlet. Blooms can have a single or double quota of petals, while the foliage may be flat, ruffled or even variegated. For people with a desire for absolute symmetry, some *saintpaulia* cultivars are perfect wheels of foliage topped with a finely formed globe of flowers. Those with more freewheeling tastes may choose trailing varieties that cascade over the side of a pot. And people who enjoy small things can be satisfied by miniature *saintpaulias*. Each of these amazingly varied cultivars is lovely. But none looks like a wild violet.

One look at the original African violet makes it immediately clear where America's most popular flowering house plant got its name. *Saintpaulia ionantha* (the Latin name means violetlike) recalls the wild violets you come across during a walk through the woods. Although the foliage emerges from the same central point, the leaves seem to sprawl around on petioles (leafstalks) of varying lengths. Above this wandering foliage, simple lavender flowers with just slightly asymmetric petals bob in small clusters.

In examining a true African violet, you may notice something else. It's a rather pretty plant, with a delicacy quite unlike its man-made hybrid descendants. Collecting African violet species is more than

an intellectual exercise on the origins of house plants. It's an opportunity to enjoy a gentle simplicity unique among flowering house plants.

SPECIFIC CHARACTERS

Species African violets demand close attention. Although they don't need particularly vigilant care, each species' beauty can be appreciated only with minute examination. A magnifying glass is a handy device to keep around these plants. At close range, you can see the hair patterns on the foliage and the flower forms that differentiate the twenty or so different species of *saintpaulias*.

All the species have violet, five-petaled flowers. Yet *velutina* has a shade more pink in its purple than the almost blue *ionantha*. *Tongwensis* has rounded, cup-shaped flowers, while *orbicularis* and *diplosticha*'s two top petals are longer and separated from the three bottom flower lobes.

The leaves are similarly hairy, yet each species' foliage surface is slightly different from the texture of the next. With your hand lens you can see how the extra fuzzy leaves of *velutina* and *diplosticha* actually come about by a combination of very short and very long white hairs. The shiny foliage of *nitida*, *rupicola* and *brevipilosa* has a soft, velvety feel resulting from the short hairs coating the upper leaf surfaces. *Inconspicua*, a rarely cultivated species, has the unique honor of being an almost hairless African violet.

You can put aside your magnifying glass to take note of *saintpaulia*'s range of sizes and growth forms. Most African violets, both the hybrids and the species, grow from a short central stem to form a rosette of foliage. The rosette form is typical of the classic *ionantha*, which can grow to the prodigious size of two feet in diameter, as well as the miniature *shumensis*. Unlike the hybrids, these species have a marked tendency to sucker, or put out side stems. A *saintpaulia* species more naturally grows to be a pot

of connected rosettes than a single circle of symmetrical foliage.

The other basic *saintpaulia* type is the trailing violet. As the stem elongates and produces suckers, the foliage follows, cascading over the pot's sides. All creeping violets are of small stature, with leaves not much bigger than two inches long. The trailing species are *magungensis*, *pendula*, *goetzeana* and the hard-to-grow *grotei*. *Intermedia* maintains a rosette form in its youth and trails when it becomes mature.

HIDDEN VARIETY

Despite these subtle differences, all *saintpaulia* species have green leaves and simple violet flowers. There is no such plant as a pink *ionantha* or a variegated *magungensis*. White and almost red flowers are common among hybrids, yet absent among the species. There is no botanical ancestor for ruffled foliage or double flowers. It's difficult to believe that the delicate but plain species are responsible for their wildly colored and very differently formed descendants.

But the genus *Saintpaulia*'s uniformity is a deceptive front. Out in the wild, in their natural habitats, the plants all look the same because they have to. A flower color or foliage texture too far out of the ordinary would catch the eye of a ravenous predator and doom the plant. But when the plant is grown as decoration, what was lethal in nature may be desirable in cultivation.

The African violet's domestic history is about eighty-five years old (in 1979). During this time, cultivated *saintpaulias* have had ample opportunity to perform oddly on greenhouse benches. A small percentage of seeds gathered from purple-flowered plants germinated to produce pink or white flowers. The progeny of green, flat-leaved specimens somehow sprouted crinkly or even variegated foliage unlike anything ever seen on its wild ancestors. It turned out that *Saintpaulia* is an extremely variable genus. An awful lot of nonconforming potential was hiding inside plain plants that, for survival reasons, had never deviated from the norm.

As time passed, double violet flowers appeared spontaneously. Then a double-flowered pink cultivar came onto the scene. Growers who had begun to specialize in *saintpaulias* after World War II, made the most of the diversity that popped up on their greenhouse benches. By crossing these mutations with each other, hybrids with species and hybrids

with hybrids, they rapidly produced the very univioletlike house plants we now call African violets.

THE WILD SIDE

For all the obvious changes in leaf and flower form, our intervention has not fundamentally altered the African violet. Evolution has produced a set of ingrained growing needs that can't be changed in a couple or even a few hundred hybrid crosses. Learning about the natural life of *saintpaulia* species can tell you a lot about the hybrids' preferences as well as how to grow their botanical ancestors.

Oddly, the flowering plant that has managed to accommodate itself to so many windowsills and greenhouse benches hails from a tiny corner of East Africa just south of the equator. All twenty *saintpaulia* species are native to an area of a few thousand square miles straddling the border between Tanzania and Kenya. This is a mountainous region where Mount Kilimanjaro (the tallest mountain in Africa) is surrounded by a range of lesser peaks and foothills dwindling in height as they approach the Indian Ocean. The terrain is crisscrossed by deep ravines and gorges cut out by rivers and streams fed by melting mountain-top snow.

Although it is possible for African violets to grow in soil, very few can be found on a forest floor. Instead, *saintpaulia*'s ecological niche is along the steep, almost vertical rock walls leading down to the running water. *Saintpaulias* generally are *lithophytes*, or rock dwellers. Their netlike, fibrous roots find anchor and sustenance in the patches of humus that collect in the natural cracks, or fissures, between rocks. Few other species can manage with this meager soil supply, so the African violet has little competition.

African violets can't live without a stand of tall trees nearby to shade them. Whether the rock wall is a sea-level limestone precipice supporting an *ionantha* patch or two thousand feet up a mountain on a cliff overrun by *Saintpaulia magungensis*, African violets always grow in deep shade.

In this equatorial region, there are two rainy seasons separated by two rather dry periods. From March through May, the rains are torrential, showering perhaps two feet of water on the coastal regions. (In the foothills, the rainfall may be double that experienced at sea level.) During October and November, about one foot of rain falls on the area. During the seven months of dry weather, a total of only eighteen inches of rain may fall.

The rain's seasonality may seem surprising for a plant that is reputed to need "evenly moist" soil in cultivation. But keep in mind that the rocks that surround these plants' soil slow down the rate of evaporation from around the roots. In addition, the humidity above a stream bed is consistently high, even in the dry season. No matter how much the humus dries out, the air around the leaves is always very wet. As anyone knows who has used a plastic enclosure to root an African violet crown, *saintpaulias* can survive without root moisture as long as the humidity of the air around their foliage is high.

The twenty *saintpaulia* species are scattered over several mountain ranges at different altitudes. *Ionantha*, for instance, grows along a gorge that is at sea level. In this region, the daytime temperatures may hit 100°F (38°C), while the coldest night may be a warm 70°F (21°C). At the one-mile-high altitude where *pusilla* and *shumensis* grow, the nights may dip down to a chilly 45°F (7°C) while the day air warms up to about 90°F (32°C). Most *saintpaulia* species grow about half a mile above sea level, where the temperature ranges between 55-90°F (13°-32°C).

AN ENDANGERED SPECIES?

Botanical significance, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. To the people living in Kenya and Tanzania, the African violet is a pretty but useless weed. From these farmers' perspective, there is no point to protecting such ornaments when there is a pressing need for cash and food. In the interest of the needs of the local people, many of the *saintpaulia*'s natural habitats are being destroyed.

The farmers feel no malice toward the violets and they have no use for the rocks on which *saintpaulias* grow. But they do cut down the trees for sale as charcoal and timber. And once the area is cleared, the trees are replaced by plantations of tea, sisal (an *agave* used for making rope) and cardamom (a bush with seeds that are used as a spice). In the meantime, the untouched *saintpaulias* wilt and die in the brilliant, burning sun the trees used to block.

Not all *saintpaulias* are endangered species. A few grow in protected forests where there is no threat of inadvertent destruction. And regardless of the threat to a few of the species, from a scientific point of view, the destruction of all wild *saintpaulias* would be sad only for sentimental reasons. Since all the *saintpaulia* species probably have been discovered and they all can grow indefinitely in a green-

house (not all plants can), their potential uses still can be explored far away from their natural habitats.

The real problem is that there are literally hundreds of thousands of plant species the existence of which is suspected, but the characteristics of which are unknown. No one knows if we are missing out on a miracle drug or an economically useful fiber when an unknown species becomes extinct.

DOMESTICATION

All the *saintpaulia* species can be found in cultivation because their narrow ecological niche has prepared them for life in a pot. Rock-dwelling in a patch of humus has made their roots adapt to an apparently paradoxical environment. Since rain can run through humus and down a slope, an African violet's natural growing medium always is airy and well-drained. Yet the rock enclosure and the humidity keep the humus moderately moist most of the time. These natural beginnings make *saintpaulias* painfully susceptible to the root rot that comes from overwatering and heavy soil, as well as the drought that results from simple neglect.

To make an airy yet moisture-retentive *saintpaulia* growing medium, use commercial African violet soil for starters. Then combine two parts of the packaged soil with one part perlite, a soil conditioner that makes the mix more grainy. A soilless alternative can be made from equal parts of sphagnum peat moss, perlite and vermiculite. When you water an African violet, do so thoroughly until moisture runs out the bottom of the pot. Then wait until the top half-inch of soil is dry to the touch before you water again. If you're not really sure whether the soil is dry enough, wait another day.

Saintpaulias grow as well in a strawberry pot's pockets as they do in their native rock niches. In a landscaped terrarium, miniature species such as *shumensis* and the *minima* variety of *magungensis* thrive nestled among rocks along a steep slope. Nevertheless, African violets also can grow horizontally as long as their roots aren't overwhelmed by soil. Keep plant in a shallow pot that has a width approximately one-third the diameter of the foliage.

FOLIAGE FARE

Saintpaulia leaves, like their roots, grow best when they feel at home. Keep in mind that African violets evolved in the high humidity created by nearby rivers and streams. Although *diplocrateria* apparently prefers to go without additional humidity, the other species prefer life on a water-filled

pebble tray. When the plants are not growing in a humid environment, mist the foliage several times a day. Use hot water in your mister to prevent leaf discoloration caused by chilly moisture droplets.

The deep shade of *saintpaulia*'s natural habitat may give you the false impression that the plants can flower in dim locations. This incorrect conclusion ignores the fact that sunlight is strongest near the equator. The sun is so intense where African violets grow wild that a day of tropical deep shade is equivalent to half a day of direct sun in temperate regions. Keep your plants in a western or eastern exposure to bask in a couple of hours of direct sun daily. Species *saintpaulias* also thrive in a south-facing window as long as the foliage is shielded by a translucent curtain. The original African violets, like their hybrid relatives, flower readily in a two-tube fluorescent light garden.

Temperature is the environmental factor that separates *saintpaulia* species. The vast majority prefer the same temperatures people do, which is one reason why they make good house plants. Winter temperatures of 65-70°F (18-21°C) suit all the species, while summer temperatures can go up to 90°F before most *saintpaulias* quit flowering. In chillier growing situations, choose the velvety *brevipilosa*, the hairy *velutina*, the very violetlike *ruplicola* or the versatile *orbicularis*.

GOOD GROOMING

The difference between growing a hybrid African violet and a species *saintpaulia* is like the difference between caring for a miniature poodle and its standard-sized cousin. The showier hybrid requires constant grooming to maintain its formal symmetry. The original species, on the other hand, just needs a periodic once-over to keep up its health and unassuming good looks.

Unlike the standard African violet hybrids, most *saintpaulia* species feature several soil-level growing points on the same plant. This characteristic, called suckering, results in a bushy, pleasingly asymmetric specimen. In fact, you should encourage this kind of branching on trailing species such as *manguensis* and *pendula* by pinching out the youngest leaves in each sucker. A well-grown trailing specimen should cascade all around the side of its container.

A few of the original African violets seem to grow best from a single, central growing point. *Ionantha*, the main parent of most hybrids, as well as *veluntina*

and *difficilis* should look as symmetrical as possible. Pinch off any side shoots as soon as they appear.

As many species' leaves age, they have a peculiar tendency to cup inward, or spoon. Don't mistake spooning for a sign of nutrient deficiency or insect infestation. Instead, look at spooning, a natural *saintpaulia* characteristic, as an opportunity to enjoy the undersides of the foliage. Nevertheless, don't allow a mature leaf to age beyond good looks. Always pinch off yellow and withered foliage at the base of its leafstalk.

THE WHOLE TRUTH

The original African violets are not perfect house plants. They don't flower as abundantly or for as long as the hybrids and they are subject to their share of pests and diseases. The most insidious *saintpaulia* intruder is the cyclamen mite. This barely visible spiderlike creature may destroy a plant before you can figure out what is wrong. Abnormally curled and brittle foliage is a clear distress signal that merits a thorough search for these minute marauders. Mites are red, beige or brown specks that move; they also betray their presence with tiny, silky webs spanning the leaves. Immediately isolate a mite-infested plant far away from other house plants. Mites are so mobile and difficult to detect that it's a good idea to spray all your plants, not just an obvious victim, with Kelthane. Spray this powerful miticide on the foliage one week after the first treatment, regardless of whether or not you can see these almost undetectable bugs.

Mealybugs, which look like ovals of white wax or cotton, and aphids also may make an appearance on your African violets. Eradicate these pests with several weekly applications of malathion spray. The same malathion can be applied as a soil drench to kill soil mealybugs, crawling cousins of the sap-sucking, above-ground insects. Soil mealybugs feed on a violet's roots, thus stunting the plant's growth. Remember to follow the label's directions to the letter when you mix insecticides.

To prevent pests from getting a firm hold on a *saintpaulia*, wash the foliage every month or so. Spray the leaves with a strong stream of warm water or give the plant a more thorough dousing by covering the soil with aluminum foil and swishing the leaves in tepid water. By preventing bug infestations and rinsing off dust, this regular washing helps maintain the simple, clean-scrubbed look that makes the first African violets such charming plants.

Insect Pests and Diseases

Marge Huntley, Editor

More About African Violets

Victoria Saintpaulia Society

affiliated with the Gesneriad Council of Australia and New Zealand

It is not always wise to try to save a diseased or insect infested plant. Most of the sprays which will control infestations are dangerous to health and should not be used in the home where they build up in drapes, carpets and furniture.

If a plant is taken outside and sprayed it may recover but will suffer a setback and may never again be a robust specimen.

After being disinfected, a leaf from an infested plant may be propagated and could produce flowering plants before the original plant has recovered its vigour. This way you will have been saved the hassles of spraying.

Disinfecting a leaf

The leaf should be cut from the plant so that there is no soil attached. Wash leaf under running warm water, then soak it in a solution of three teaspoons household bleach to half a litre of warm water, three teaspoons of sugar can also be added. After five minutes, rinse leaf, re-cut stem and plant in usual manner.

Precautions for spraying

If you decide to spray your infected plants, observe the following precautions.

Wear protective clothing with arms and hair covered. A surgical mask could be worn, better yet is a proper rebreather such as used by painters. Take plants into the open air in a shady place. A pressure spray appliance helps to give each leaf, underneath as well as on top, a complete cover. The surface soil should also be sprayed. Do not replace plants under lights or in a very bright place till the foliage has dried. Check about an hour later and mop up any large areas of moisture, particularly in the centres.

After use, wash spraying appliance several times; pump hot water through the nozzle.

Most sprays should be used freshly mixed. If allowed to remain in the appliance for any length of time the plastic and nozzle could become corroded.

Now take a shower and put your "spraying clothes" in the washing machine. NEVER smoke or eat till you have showered.

Drenching

Spraying would be of no use against the bugs which attack the roots of plants. Drenching is the treatment for all soil borne pests. Drenches are applied to the soil when it is slightly damp. To be effective the drench must thoroughly wet all the soil in the pot. Any excess should be drained from the saucer after ten minutes. Drenches contain a weaker solution of insecticide than sprays. Not all spray insecticides can be used as drenches. Safety precautions must be observed as with spraying.

When my plants were attacked by soil mealy bug several years ago, I drenched them twice. The outside leaves became limp through a combination of chemicals and the extreme wetness of the soil mix. I knew that I still should repeat the drenching four more times at weekly intervals; it was a race to see whether the plants or I collapsed first.

I then removed the crown of each plant I wanted to keep. I took off most of the leaves except just a few around the centre growth. This was washed under running warm to hot water. I treated it as a side-shoot; after planting, it stayed in a closed plastic bag till roots had formed in a few weeks. Most of those treated survived and were back to good sized flowering plants in six months.

Spray Concentrations

It is difficult for us to recommend how much of each insecticide should be used. Many of the spray solutions on the market are currently being reassessed and some are being released with a much lower concentration of the active ingredient than formerly. If you are using a spray recipe which you have been using for years check the product label. You will be surprised to find how much less concentrated some insecticides are now.

Compatibility

Some insecticides and fungicides may be mixed together to deal with both fungus and insect problems with one treatment. Never mix these without checking for compatibility. I have found that the chemists employed by the manufacturers are most helpful if approached.

Add a spreader

A few drops of dishwashing detergent should be added to all spray mixes. This loosens the surface tension and actually makes water "wetter."

Cyclamen Mite

This is perhaps the worst pest to attack African violets. Once established it is hard to wipe out. Constant vigilance is needed so that treatment can begin in the early stage. Generally a grower can suspect mite when the centre begins to look odd. The leaves in the centre may be distorted and cease to keep up with the normal growth of the plant. The centre leaves seem abnormally hairy. The petioles of leaves next to the crown may have an unnatural curve and be thickened irregularly. Hold the plant up and look at it from the side. There may be some brown crusty area on the leaf tissue near where leaf joins stem. Blossoms may be distorted or streaked. Blossom stems are twisted, or shortened and show irregular thickening. In advanced stages the centre turns grey and dies. Cyclamen mite spreads throughout a collection and if it appears on even one or two plants, all plants should be treated. They cannot be seen with the naked eye.



**Distorted hairy centre leaves,
lumpy flower stalks.**

Treatment. Kelthane is the best miticide that we have currently available in Australia. We are hopeful that we may eventually have Pentac which is used with great effectiveness in the United States.

Mix Kelthane to the strength recommended on product label, use a spreader and observe precautions. Plants must be treated every 10-14 days three times, followed by two more sprayings after a month or so.

Fungus Gnats

Are small dark flying insects which were once thought to be harmless. Nowadays we feel that they are not so innocent. As they fly about the plants they could spread mite or fungus. They breed in the soil in maggot form, which feeds on rotting matter in the mix. They probably also feed on the fine root hairs of African violets. Root rot often occurs in collections where there are a large number of fungus gnats in evidence.



**Fungus Gnats - small dark
flying insects**

Prevention

Do not allow plants to remain too wet. Avoid over abundance of humus in mix.

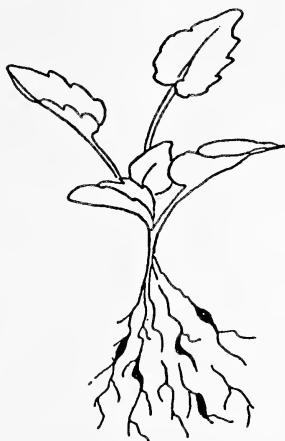
Treatment. A malathion drench used at half recommended strength. An old-fashioned cure is one (1) tablespoon cloudy ammonia to 5 litres of water, as a drench. Use any treatment first on a few expendable plants before treating your whole collection.

Nematodes

Nematodes are soil pests, fine threadlike parasitic worms that can infest the roots of your plants. They take up residence in the roots and form a swelling which cuts off supply of vital nourishment to the

plant causing general debility. So, if your plant has a tired drooping appearance and a poor colour, a general look of unsatisfactory development, turn it out of the pot and examine the roots. If these have swellings and roots below the swellings are dead, your plant has nematodes.

Nematodes are very infectious and can be transferred from plant to plant through water in communal trays, contaminated soil and dirty hands or utensils. Complete cleanliness of pots and all items used with your plants is very important.



Nematodes cause swelling in the roots of plants

Treatment. To treat plants already infested, allow plant to dry out; using a teaspoon, remove compost to form a trench around the root stem then, using plastic applicator, apply granules around root stem; fill in trench and water liberally.

Soil Mealy Bug (Pritchard Mealy Bug)

Soil mealy bug is like the foliage mealy bug but without the fluffy overcoat. It looks like a very white sesame seed; it moves very slowly. It can be seen with the naked eye but more easily with a magnifying glass. Mealy bug damages the plant by sucking and destroying the fine hair roots of African violets. It lives underground and can be seen around the neck of the plant, just under the soil. It is also seen on the outside of the soil ball, particularly around the bottom edge. Often there is a slight webbiness around the area. It is found throughout the root ball. Mealy bugs retreat from both water and dryness. When a plant is really wet they will climb up the stem of the plant till their home dries out. When a plant gets

really dry they will leave through the drainage holes of the pot. If community trays are used mealy bugs will spread from plant to plant.

If a plant is infested the small white bugs may be seen floating on the surface of water in wick watering reservoirs. A plant sitting over a dry reservoir can shed its mealies which can be seen on the inside of the container.

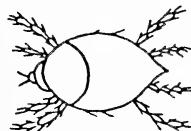
Treatment. The accepted treatment is to drench every week for six weeks and then again every two or three months for a year. Malathion has been used with varying degrees of success.

Prevention. Use only pasteurized soil mix and be wary of introducing plants to your collection.

Sucking insects

These include Foliar mealy bug, thrips, aphids, etc.

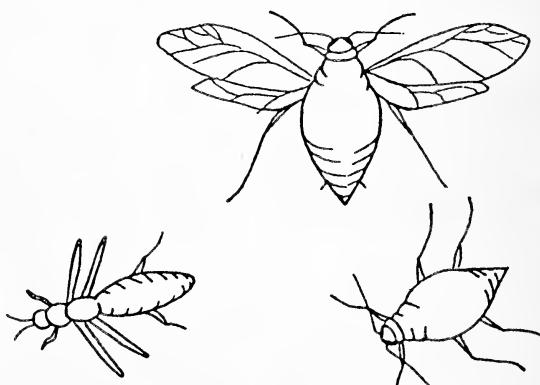
Foliar mealy bug appears as a small ball of cotton on leaves and in leaf axils. They can be killed by touching with a cotton bud dipped in methylated spirits.



**Cyclamen Mite
(magnified many times)**



Soil Mealy Bug
Soil mealy bug looks like a small, very white sesame seed in the potting medium and is just visible to the naked eye.



Thrips

Aphids

Fungus diseases

These include Mildew, Crown and Root rot, Botrytis and Damping off.

MILDEW appears as a white powder on the leaves, flowers and flower stems. It is a spore that grows if given the right mixture of poor air circulation, crowded conditions and nights with temperatures much colder than daytime levels.

CROWN AND ROOT ROT seems to attack a plant quickly. A leaf of an apparently healthy plant suddenly looks limp. If this leaf is given a gentle tug it separates from the plant; on examination it is found that the whole crown breaks away from the root ball under very little pressure. This is not a sudden thing at all; the fungus has been attacking the plant for some time. It may have got into the stem tissues from a wound caused by insect attack; the feeder roots of

the plant have been destroyed and the plant cannot take up the water it is given. Conditions then become too wet for the roots and they rot.

If there is enough of the centre growth left after all signs of rot have been cut away this centre can be planted as a side shoot.

BOTRYTIS. This is a grey mould which can enter the plant through dead or dying flowers which have not been removed.

DAMPING OFF. Young plants or seedlings do not flourish and soon die.

TREATMENT FOR ALL FUNGUS DISEASES

Spray with a fungicide such as Benlate, as directed on the product label. A solution of half strength Benlate can be watered into the soil of seedlings or young plants to prevent damping off.

The Case of the Misplaced Violet

*Jenny Sweet
14966 Fairmount
Detroit, MI 48205-1319*

Never, in my wildest dreams, did I imagine that I would become a detective. If only Sherlock Holmes was alive today to help me solve, "The Case of the Misplaced Violet." You're probably wondering how one can misplace a violet? I confess, I haven't misplaced it. It's on one of my plant shelves without a name tag.

You see, I have this terrible habit of forgetting to transfer name tags after repotting. It never fails, while in the middle of repotting, I suddenly realize I've done it again. With magnifying glass in one hand and books with African violet pictures in color, in the other, I begin trying to match unlabeled plants to their respective name tags. Easy you might say? Not after all the blossom stalks have been removed.

In October 1986, 'The King' arrived as a starter gift plant from a friend. By year end this plant was sending up its first blossom stalks. Subsequently, I noticed that several of my older plants were developing tight centers. I suspected mites, hence, all plants were stripped of their blossom stalks and sprayed with Kelthane during the next several weeks.

After my mite ordeal it was time for my quarterly repotting, and I realized once again ... "forgot to label the plants." One of these plants happened to be 'The King.' In my attempt to match tags to plants I ended up with two tags and one plant. As a result of an in-depth investigation it was determined that the one plant didn't belong to either of the tags. Obviously, my dear Watson, more than one plant is mislabeled. Being a persistent detective, I narrowed 'The King' down to one of three plants. Now I must wait for each plant to bloom to be certain.

Spring arrived, and one by one, the delicately folded petals opened. I bent down closer to examine the flowers. My heart began pounding. My stomach tightened into a knot. I stood back for a minute, shaking my head in disbelief. There was no doubt about it — THRIPS.

Having misplaced the name tag to 'The King' and having to remove blossom stalks for the second time, I was about ready to dump all my violets in the garden mulch pile. But, determined to solve this case once and for all, I waited out the weeks of disbudding

and spraying until I had wiped out every last thrips.

While sharing my plant woes with another violet fanatic, she said, "Finding 'The King' is elementary. Just look for the blue flowers." Now, knowing the blossom color, the case was obviously solved. But when the plants bloomed ... (you got it) ... over half of them were blue.

I wonder—is there another African violet enthusiast who has abused 'Tommy Michael,' 'Prince William,' or 'The King' and is suffering from these same label woes? Or am I the only one? I thought I was organized but ... let's examine the various name tag methods I have used.

The first method I tried was using the white, plastic plant tag stakes. It never failed. As the plant grew, the leaves would begin curling, trying to get around the stake. I found myself trying to control and free the leaves. Eventually, I'd remove and place the tags on the shelf beside the plant. This caused unbelievable troubles. Before I knew it, tags were at the opposite end of the shelf, hiding under plant trays, lying on the floor, you name it. Or they would simply disappear, never to be seen again.

This led me to try a label maker, more expensive, (especially when you've misspelled the plant name for the third time and you're almost out of tape) with only a slight improvement over the stakes. However, I soon discovered that after prying the label off and transferring it several times, the adhesive backing wears off, and numerous white creases appear, making the label unreadable. Like the plastic plant stakes, I eventually found the labels everywhere but on the pots.

Needless to say, the label maker method was also trashed. Back to the basics, masking tape and a ball point pen. But even the basics have their shortcomings.

My only complaint with masking tape is when removed after months of use, the pot is left with an unsightly, unremovable glue stain.

Next idea—a felt marker which only finger nail polish remover can remove. So far, this method seems to be working out the best. My only regret is that the felt marker hasn't helped me identify 'The King.'

Eighteen months have now passed and I still have not found 'The King.' The most logical solution you might say would be ... buy another plant.

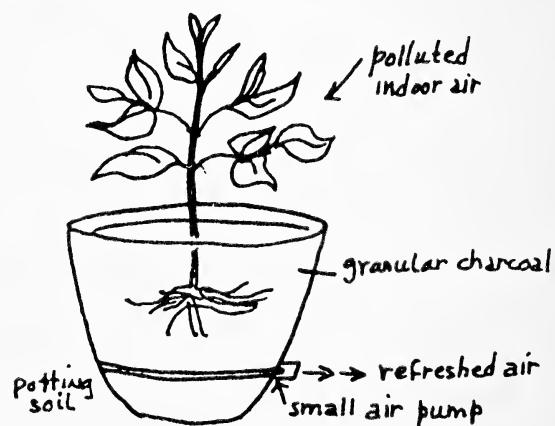
But that's "Elementary, my dear Watson!"

New Things In The Wind

Dorothy Kahrmann
The Council News, CA

Work has begun by Dr. Bill Wolverton at the National Space Technology Laboratories on air purity. He hoped to improve the tightly-sealed living quarters of space vehicles and the almost capsule-tight, energy-efficient homes that many people now live in. We all know that growing plants give off oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide from the air through their leaves. We collectors of gesneriads already, without being too aware of it, are helping to improve air quality through this growing process of our large collections. A fan helps to circulate the air around African violets, philodendron, pothos, Dutchman's pipe, etc. Their green leaves do more than we imagine to clean the air of many impurities.

On the market in "about 5 years" will be special electrically-powered growing pots that will enable the plants' root systems to draw stale indoor air through the soil, releasing pleasant-to-breathe, odor-free air. There would be an added advantage in that the roots would be aerated.



Dr. Wolverton began his study with hyacinths on a waste-water treatment system—having the theory that green leaves might take pollutants from the air the way roots absorbed them from the water. So to test this theory, he put two potted Dutchman's pipe

(Spider plants) into a sealed enclosure containing vaporized formaldehyde. This gas is given off by many modern building materials and household items (carpeting, plywood, particle board, even paper toweling and tissues). After 24 hours in this test chamber, the plants had reduced the fumes by 85 percent. Other tests followed with good results.

Gas cooking stoves and tobacco smoke produce nitric dioxide, benzene, and carbon monoxide. So he is testing his theory on these impurities.

If you are fortunate enough to have an attached greenhouse, the use of fans to keep household air circulating through the greenhouse could cleanse the air. However, mildew and fungus sometimes form on

the surface of potting soil, and the fan may blow more spores into the air. A simple solution is to add a layer of pebbles on the surface.

More recent research brings out that soil bacteria, which concentrates in and around plant roots, is even more efficient than the green leaves in reducing chemical pollution, as bacteria feed directly on the contaminants. So the doctor suggests that his new pot contain a large percentage of activated charcoal in the soil. A small fan draws the indoor air through the charcoal that traps the pollutants for the bacteria and other microbes on the roots to feed on. This pot sounds promising.

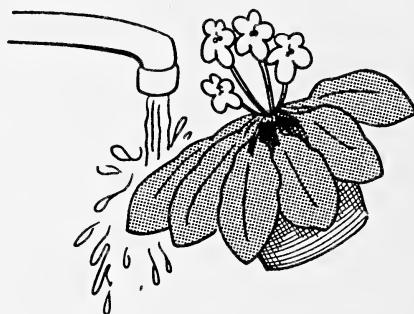
Misting and Foliar Feeding

*Mary Lou Beaulieu
"Chatter"
The Journal of the AVS of Canada*

One of the most recognized fallacies with growing African violets is that you "don't get water or any form of moisture on the foliage." I have learned through personal experience that this statement has very little truth to it, providing you are careful to follow these hints:

Your African violets (as well as most of your other houseplants) will enjoy a nice bath under your tap, providing the water used is a little warmer than room temperature (not cold water), that it is done with a light pressure setting, that the soil is covered (with plastic wrap), and that any water droplets left on the foliage is tamped off with a piece of paper towelling very carefully. (Leaving water on the leaves may cause spotting or burning under certain light conditions, and especially under bright sunlight, so do not place your plants back into the sunlight until they are quite dry.) Done right, your plants will benefit from their bath, by having cleaner pores, free of dust, and being able to breathe more easily, and therefore be healthier in the long run.

Your African violets (as well as your hanging plants, and most gesneriads) will also enjoy a regular misting with water. Misting will also cleanse the leaf pores of dust and other impurities. The water used for



misting should be HOT. A fine spray should be used. The reason for using HOT water is that as soon as the fine spray hits the air, it cools by 10-15 degrees F. If the temperature of the water is too much cooler than the temperature of the leaf (growing under lights or in a warm, sunny window) spotting or burning will occur. Misting with HOT water should always be done in the early morning or in the late evening to allow the leaves to dry before the sun gets too bright. Make sure the leaves of the plant are DRY before the sun hits them.

For an additional booster to your African violets and gesneriads, try adding a drop or two of liquid

fertilizer in a gallon of HOT water, and then misting your plants. This process is called "foliar feeding." This misting with diluted fertilizer (along with your regular fertilizing program) will add lustre to your leaves, and enhance the texture. Foliar feeding is especially noticeable on large foliaged plants such as episcia, streptocarpus, etc. You will notice an enhancement in the colour as well as the stronger texture to the leaf itself.



One of the most popular misting solutions is a spray made of liquid seaweed mixed with water. The minerals of a seaweed spray are absorbed through the skin of the leaf and into the sap of the plant—and not only minerals, but the other plants' needs for trace elements can be better satisfied if those elements are offered to the leaves in the form of a spray, rather than being offered through the soil to the roots. It is also possible that seaweed sprays stimulate metabolic processes in the leaf and so help the plant to exploit leaf-locked nutrients. It is known that plants treated with seaweed products develop a resistance to pests and diseases, not only to sap-sucking insects such as red spider mite and aphids, but also to scab, mildew and fungi.

Bounty and Sturdy (natural product fertilizers) used either in combination, or as individual content

provide an excellent foliar feeding fertilizer. The fish emulsion provides the leaves with the additional elements that will encourage foliage growth, and you end up with very lush foliage, and much stronger stems on your leaves. A lot of people who regularly show their African violets and gesneriads adopt a regular foliar feeding program using these products before a show to enhance their foliage.

Please remember not to use a fertilizer with a coloured dye, as this type of fertilizer will in most cases leave a ring of colour on the leaves if not used extremely carefully.

I have found foliar feeding an especially beneficial idea when it comes to putting down leaves, or for strengthening leaves and plants before mailing them. With the leaf cuttings, or plant cuttings, they have not yet acquired roots, and therefore foliar feeding is the only way the plant or leaf can get nourishment. If you foliar feed your leaf cuttings or plant cuttings, you end up with much stronger roots, leaves and less loss of cuttings.

With the mail order, I have found that spraying (misting) my leaves just after they are cut, adds several days to the longevity of the leaves in shipment. I advise a lot of my customers to use the foliar feeding method because I find that it works for me. I get stronger plantlets, and faster growing plants and cuttings using foliar feeding.

Try foliar feeding, and misting your plants, and you will find yourself with harder, healthier plants ... good growing.

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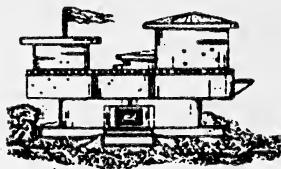
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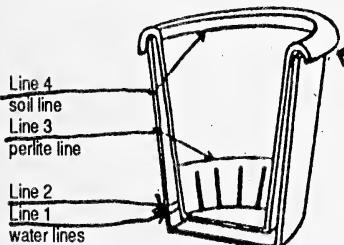
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# Want To Do Something Fantastic For Your African Violets? Get Them A FLORACART!

Once you have a FloraCart, you'll wonder why you didn't get one a long time ago. You'll continuously raise luxurious African Violets - force spring flowering bulbs and get strong plants from all seeds and cuttings. FloraCart makes indoor gardening easy. Rugged lifetime aluminum tubing construction, adjustable shelves and heavy duty 3" casters are standard. Comes with 19" x 49" x 1-1/2" beautiful high-impact molded fiberglass trays - easily cleaned, impervious to moisture, chemicals and weather. Combolite fixture is designed for excellent flower culture.

2 tray models, \$179.00; 3 tray models, \$244.00 prepaid. Shipped UPS - PREPAID (Add 5% West of Denver) Light fixtures additional. Checks, C.O.D., Money Orders, MasterCard or Visa. Michigan residents add 4% Sales Tax. Free Brochure - Dealer Inquiries Invited. Phone (313) 422-2420.

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## WHITE'S PLANT STANDS

- LIGHT WEIGHT • RUST-PROOF • DURABLE
- ATTRACTIVE WHITE COLOR
- MADE FROM STURDY PLASTIC TUBING
- EASY TO ASSEMBLE AND DISASSEMBLE
- GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL

Our Stands are high quality, high durability, maintenance free, and inexpensive. Don't think you have to pay high prices to get high quality — you don't!

↔ PS-0020-12 pictured.

| Model #    | Without Fixtures | Stand + 3 Light Fixtures<br>(One Per level)                          | Stand + 6 Light Fixtures<br>(Two Per Level)                          |
|------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PS-0040-2  | \$29.00          | -----                                                                | -----                                                                |
| PS-0030-6  | \$89.00          | -----                                                                | -----                                                                |
| PS-0020-12 | \$99.00          | \$135.00<br>\$150.00<br>(Lights unassembled)<br>(Lights unassembled) | \$175.00<br>\$205.00<br>(Lights unassembled)<br>(Lights unassembled) |

PLASTIC TRAYS \$4.50 EA. green color

CASTORS \$20/SET - Ball castors in gold chrome color.

PS-0040-2 (Two-Tray Stand) Holds two trays - one per level measures - 31" high x 23" wide x 14" deep - Can be used on table or mounted on wall. (2 Trays included)  
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\*Please call or write if you need further information\*



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Introducing high organic nitrogen in the form of a stick which is inserted into the soil around the roots. Use to give an extra boost, darken yellowing foliage and to increase dark, shiny, healthy looking foliage. EXCELLENT PRODUCT

20 sticks/pkg. - \$1.25



### NEW!! Self Watering Pots

Watch your plants grow as never before!

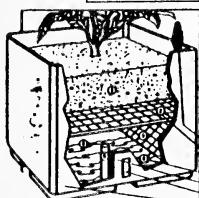
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|-------|--------|--------------|
| Eva   | 4"     | \$2.25 (Sq.) |
| Bora  | 4-1/2" | \$2.50 (Sq.) |
| Ronda | 6-1/4" | \$3.25 (Rd.) |

IVORY COLOR



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|                                                               |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| BA-3 3-tray stand with top bracket and 3 fluorescent fixtures | ..... 459.99 |
| BA-4 4-tray stand with top bracket and 4 fluorescent fixtures | ..... 549.99 |

Includes GROW TUBES

\*FREIGHT PREPAID\* Add 5% west of Denver.



### MINIATURIZING MINI POTS

NOW you can grow the MINIATURIZED MINIS that are sweeping the hobby. These little terracotta colored pots are 1-1/4" tall & 1-1/4" across at the top of the pot. They are a miniature of the standard clay pot but are plastic with a snap on saucer

|     |       |        |
|-----|-------|--------|
| 10  | ..... | \$3.25 |
| 25  | ..... | 6.75   |
| 50  | ..... | 12.50  |
| 100 | ..... | 22.00  |
| 500 | ..... | 90.00  |



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|                 |                   |                      |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 7/8"            | ..... \$1.25 each | ..... 12 for \$12.00 |
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| 2-3/4" Aqua cup | .....             | ..... \$8.40         |

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|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| \$ 7.50 to \$10 add \$2.50 | \$31 to \$45.99 add \$5.50 |
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\$71.00 and west of Rockies add \$.95 to all rates

### BOOKS

#### The Complete Flower Arranger

by Amilia Ascher

Excellent book, 149 photos, every aspect of floral design.

Softback .....

\$16.40 pp.

#### How To Select & Grow

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144 pgs. w/how to' illustrations - 165 color photos ..... \$10.45 pp.

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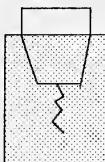
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*Wishes You A Happy Holiday Season  
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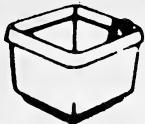
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 "MOIST-RITE" PLANTER

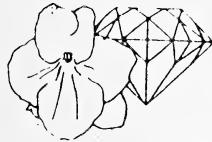
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Circle color desired

Green      White      Black

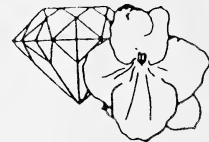
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|----------------------|--------------|
| Single planter ..... | \$ 4.25 ppd. |
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9" & 12" fits up to 5" pot

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## PATCHES AND POTS

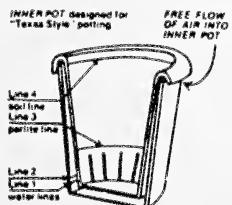
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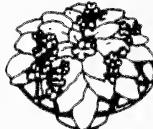
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1. Keeps leaves from getting cut on pot edges.
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Furniture Styled Square Aluminum Tubing - Easy to Assemble.  
Shown with PLR-42WS Fixtures

FIXTURES EXTRA. ALL SHIPPED BY UPS.

| Order #  | SH. | H" | L" | D" | Trays - Size | Bet. Shelves  | A     | *A(X) | B     | *B(X) |
|----------|-----|----|----|----|--------------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| B312 ( ) | 3   | 73 | 51 | 23 | 12-22"x12"   | 2-25" & 1-17" | \$144 | \$129 | \$207 | \$177 |
| B416 ( ) | 4   | 73 | 51 | 23 | 16-22"x12"   | 4-17"         | 169   | 149   | 245   | 205   |
| C303 ( ) | 3   | 73 | 51 | 20 | 3-20"x49"    | 2-25" & 1-15" | 209   | 194   | 265   | 235   |
| C404 ( ) | 4   | 73 | 51 | 20 | 4-20"x49"    | 3-17" & 1-15" | 263   | 239   | 339   | 299   |

\*Have minor flaws or scratches, may not show with selective assembly.

BA3 FloraCart w/3 SLR-42WS Fixtures W/6 - 40 watt Gro-Lux (WS) Lamps, Less Wheels  
Shipped UPS ..... \$239

GRO-LUX, GRO-LUX (WS), and Powertwist Fluorescent Lamps discounted up to 45%.  
40 Watt (WS) Wide Spectrum Lamps - 6-\$22; 12-\$40.87; 24-\$75.46

We offer 8 new plantlites with wide spacing between the lamps. The plantlites are made of aluminum to dissipate the heat and operate 10/20 F. cooler than steel fixtures. The wide spacing gives better light distribution, permitting the fixtures to be located closer to the plants.

All plantlites are fully assembled, come complete with a 3 wire cord, a plug-in receptacle, an on/off switch, 4-24" chains for 1/4" adjustment and GRO-LUX (WS) LAMPS. All plantlites are 2" deep. 2 lamp models are 14" wide with lamps 10-1/2" apart. 3 & 4 lamp fixtures are 20" wide with lamps 7-1/2" and 5-1/2" apart.

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\*PLD-42WS: \$ 60.00 ( 79 watts);

\*PLE-42WS: \$ 84.00 ( 66 watts)

PLR-43WS: \$ 85.00 (143 watts);

\*PLE-43WS: \$119.00 ( 99 watts)

PLR-44WS: \$ 89.00 (176 watts);

\*PLD-44WS: \$ 99.00 (158 watts)

\*PLE-44WS: \$127.00 (138 watts)

\*Sometimes available in "X" models at Savings of \$8.00 per fixture

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### PLASTIC FLOWER POTS

| Inch  | Size     | Color      | Type | Number of Pots |       |       |        |     |
|-------|----------|------------|------|----------------|-------|-------|--------|-----|
|       |          |            |      | 10             | 20    | 50    | 100    | 500 |
| 2     | White    | RS         | .95  | 1.60           | 3.50  | 5.75  | 24.50  |     |
| 2 1/4 | Wh or Gr | RS, SQ     | .95  | 1.60           | 3.50  | 5.75  | 24.50  |     |
| 2 1/2 | Wh or Gr | RS, SQ     | 1.15 | 1.80           | 4.00  | 6.50  | 29.00  |     |
| 3     | Wh or Gr | RS, RT, SQ | 1.35 | 2.30           | 5.00  | 9.00  | 42.50  |     |
| 3 1/2 | Wh or Gr | RT, SQ     | 1.55 | 2.70           | 6.30  | 11.00 | 50.00  |     |
| 4     | Wh or Gr | RS, RT, SQ | 1.85 | 3.20           | 7.20  | 13.50 | 60.00  |     |
| 4 1/2 | Wh or Gr | RS, RT, SQ | 2.30 | 4.00           | 8.50  | 16.00 | 76.00  |     |
| 5     | Wh or Gr | RS, RT     | 2.65 | 4.90           | 11.00 | 19.50 | 88.00  |     |
| 6     | Wh or Gr | RS, RT     | 3.25 | 5.65           | 13.00 | 25.00 | 119.00 |     |
| 6 1/2 | Wh or Gr | RT         | 3.80 | 6.40           | 14.75 | 27.50 | 127.50 |     |
| 7     | Wh or Gr | RS         | 6.30 | 11.75          | 27.50 | 49.50 | 235.00 |     |
| 8     | Wh or Gr | RS, RT     | 6.80 | 12.75          | 29.00 | 55.00 | 250.00 |     |

(COLORS: Wh=White, Gr=Green)

(TYPE: RS=Round Standard, height & width are same.

RT=Round Tub, height is 3/4 of width.

SQ=Square, volume about the same as RS.)

### PLASTIC PAN POTS

Very shallow, about half as deep as they are across the top, bottom holes only.

(Recommended in AVSM articles and convention presentations)

| Inch Size | Color    | 10   | 20    | 50    | 100   | 500    |
|-----------|----------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 5         | Wh or Gr | 3.00 | 5.75  | 13.00 | 22.50 | 97.50  |
| 6         | Wh or Gr | 3.65 | 6.70  | 15.50 | 29.50 | 132.00 |
| 6 1/2     | Wh or Gr | 4.15 | 8.00  | 18.50 | 35.00 | 163.00 |
| 8         | Wh or Gr | 6.25 | 11.50 | 27.00 | 52.00 | 240.00 |
| 10        | Wh or Gr | 9.75 | 18.25 | 43.50 | 83.00 | 400.00 |

### PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS

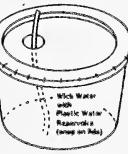
| Volume | Height | 20    | 50    | 100   | 500    |
|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 8 oz.  | 1 3/4" | 6.50  | 15.00 | 25.00 | 100.00 |
| 16 oz. | 3"     | 6.50  | 15.00 | 25.00 | 100.00 |
| 32 oz. | 3"     | 10.00 | 22.00 | 42.00 | 135.00 |

(wicks are not included)

**DISCOVERY:** We have found that 5" pans fit nicely and securely into the tops of 16 oz. reservoirs when the lids are left off!

### GET READY FOR YOUR SALES WITH FLORACUPS (Plant sleeves)

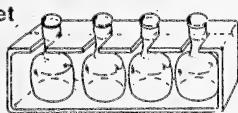
Write for quantity price quotes. Be sure to give the size of pots (A) with which they will be used.



**STARTER GREENHOUSE** - Includes 1 plastic tray, 1 divider of 72 cavities (6-pak), and 1 transparent dome. It is a rectangular greenhouse 22" long, 13 1/2" wide, and 5" high, assembled. Each set ..... \$4.25

### NEW! AQUA ROOT - \$7.95/set

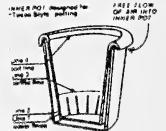
ROOT your leaves in clear acrylic flasks; 4 of them in a clear rack, 10" long; each flask is 3 1/4" high. It makes a nice gift.



Send for our **FREE CATALOG** which lists and describes several other items such as: many kinds of saucers, leaf supports, pens, labels, masks, gloves, Sinningia and African Violet seeds, soil enriching materials, trays, books, insecticides, and more. Your request for a catalog will be answered by return mail.

### OYAMA PLANTERS - \$1.49 each

As noted elsewhere in this journal, we are selling the popular OYAMA Texas Style Planters, in white only. They are 4" across the top, and 4 3/4" tall, and have nicely rolled rims.



### MOIST-RITE PLANTERS

We continue to sell the attractively designed double walled planter, providing for self-watering. It comes in light green, black, or white.

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Single planter .....       | \$ 3.50 |
| Six planters .....         | 17.50   |
| Twelve planters .....      | 30.95   |
| Twenty-four planters ..... | 52.00   |



### Plant Care Items

#### \*Please Note:

Due to the bulkiness of soil, perlite, and vermiculite, we are able to ship only 8 gallons of any one or combination of these four items with each shipping charge.

|                                                                                                                                                                      |             |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| *Violet House Potting Soil .....                                                                                                                                     | 1 gal.      | \$ 1.40 |
| *Nadeau Soilless Mix .....                                                                                                                                           | 1 gal.      | 1.40    |
| *Perlite - opens, aerates the soil .....                                                                                                                             | 1 gal.      | 1.40    |
| *Vermiculite - opens, holds soil moisture .....                                                                                                                      | 1 gal.      | 1.40    |
| Canadian Peat - milled .....                                                                                                                                         | 2 gal.      | 2.50    |
| Dolomite Lime - raises alkalinity (pH) .....                                                                                                                         | 1 lb.       | 1.30    |
| Charcoal - sweetens soil .....                                                                                                                                       | 12 oz.      | 1.40    |
| Sphagnum Moss - long fibered .....                                                                                                                                   | 1/4 cu. ft. | 2.75    |
| Fish Emulsion - promotes greening, roots .....                                                                                                                       | 10 oz.      | 1.75    |
| Leaf Shine & Cleaner - pump sprayer .....                                                                                                                            | 8 fl. oz.   | 1.50    |
| House Plant Insect Spray - non-aerosol .....                                                                                                                         | 10 fl. oz.  | 1.50    |
| Violet House Soil is a soilless medium containing Canadian peat, vermiculite, perlite, dolomite lime, and a small amount of fertilizer. The pH is approximately 6.5. |             |         |

### CAPILLARY MATTING (Vattex)

Water plants by means of capillary action. A dark plastic sheet, with tiny holes, lies on top of matting; pots are placed directly on plastic, water coming through the holes. Dark plastic, which comes with the matting, keeps light from the matting and thus minimizes growth of algae.

|                                                       |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Each square foot .....                                | \$.35  |
| 4 ft. wide, x any length. (4' x 1' = 4 sq. ft.) ..... | \$1.40 |

### PETER'S AFRICAN VIOLET FERTILIZERS

|                                         |        |         |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| African Violet Special (12-36-14) ..... | 12 oz. | \$ 2.75 |
| Variegated Special (5-50-17) .....      | 12 oz. | 3.00    |
| General Purpose (20-20-20) .....        | 16 oz. | 2.50    |

### Plastic Labels

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| 3" (100/Pkg.) | \$1.25 |
| 4" (100/Pkg.) | \$1.75 |

### Granny's Bloomers (Liquid)

|                       |
|-----------------------|
| Jungle Juice (Liquid) |
| Each -- 2 oz. \$1.40  |

6 oz. \$2.50

**Minimum Order \$7.50 plus shipping**

### Shipping Charges

|                                        |        |
|----------------------------------------|--------|
| 48 States .....                        | \$3.00 |
| Hawaii and Alaska .....                | 5.50   |
| All other areas charged at actual cost |        |
| U.P.S. charges for C.O.D. .....        | 2.00   |

Prices good until 12-31-88

Florida Customers Must Add 6% Sales Tax.

Send Orders To:

**The Violet House**

P. O. Box 1274

Gainesville, Florida 32601

Phone (904) 377-8465



# Season's Greetings from All The Tinari's

*Give someone you love  
"The Perfect Gift" ...  
An AVSA Membership.*



African Violet Accessory Orders Shipped Promptly The Year Round by UPS.

**AFRICAN VIOLETS: GIFTS FROM NATURE** ... by Melvin J. Robey. Beautiful new book, contains 42 color photos, 150 black and white. Many illustrations and charts; a real textbook 8-1/2" x 11". All you ever wanted to know about African violets at your fingertips. Truly a masterpiece!

\$45.00 ppd.



**GROWING OUR WAY...OUR AFRICAN VIOLET HERITAGE** by Anne Tinari...read about the heritage of your favorite plant, its growth and history of many cultivars originated in the last 30 years. Most often asked questions and answers to help you with your violet problems. An ideal gift for any violet enthusiast, autographed on request.

\$4.95 postpaid

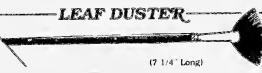
**"HOW TO GROW AFRICAN VIOLETS"** ...A new revised Sunset Book, author Jack Kramer. Up-to-date growing techniques described and illustrated. Valuable information on propagating, grooming and showing African violets.

\$6.95 postpaid

**SPECIAL: TO GROOM OUR CHOICE SHOW PLANTS**



"SUCKER PLUCKER," tempered steel blades - straight and curved-sharp edges for easy plucking, natural finish, hardwood handle ..... \$2.49 postpaid



"LEAF DUSTER," fan shaped brush of pure natural bristle, great for hairy leaf varieties ..... \$2.99 each

**SPECIAL** ..... one of each \$5.25 ppd.

**FLORA CART**— Indoor Garden on Wheels - Ideal for growing African violets. Rugged lifetime construction of aluminum tubing. Beautiful molded fiberglass trays 19" x 49" 1-1/2", lightweight, strong and easy to clean. Shipped "knocked down" with complete instructions for assembly. May be operated with automatic timer. (Accommodates 48" tubes.) Flora Carts shipped only in Continental USA. MODEL BA-3 - 3-tray Flora Cart, includes aluminum framing, top bracket, three fiberglass trays and casters for easy moving. Overall size: 68" high x 53" long x 19" wide. Shipped 1/2 paid via UPS ..... \$229.00

(Light fixtures not included, see below)

**COMBOLITE FIXTURES** - for use with all size Flora Carts, one fixture needed per tray, two tubes per fixture included of the Gro-Lux Wide Spectrum. Shipped prepaid via UPS ..... \$59.95

**TUBES** Four 40 watt 48" Gro-Lux wide spectrum ..... \$24.95 postpaid Six 40 watt 48" Gro-Lux wide spectrum ..... \$35.95 postpaid These tubes can be ordered and sent with a Flora Cart or separately in units of four or six.

**SWIFT "MOIST-RITE" PLANTER** Green or white (specify color) 4" x 4" Single planter ..... (ea) \$ 3.75 postpaid

Carton of 6 ..... \$17.50 postpaid Carton of 12 ..... \$30.95 postpaid Carton of 24 ..... \$52.00 postpaid

**TINARI'S AFRICAN VIOLET SOIL**, properly blended potting soil, pasteurized to remove most harmful bacteria. Soil is the same mixture used in our greenhouse operation, pH of about 6.4. Soil is packaged ready to ship in:

10# plastic bag ..... zone 0-1-2 \$ 9.95 postpaid

10# plastic bag ..... zone 3-4-5 \$10.95 postpaid

10# plastic bag ..... zone 6-7-8-9 \$11.95 postpaid

First number of your zip code indicates zone you should use.)



**Dept. AV**  
Commercial Member: AVS of America, Inc.  
Send 50¢ for color catalog.

**NEW** - 2-piece ceramic self-watering footed pots. Choose from 6 sparkling colors in lavender, robin's egg blue, green, deep blue, gray, sesame, yellow and white. Attractive violet cluster glazed decal decoration on both sides. (Please state 2nd color choice.) These pots can be watered from side holes to the reservoir or removal to refill reservoir. Helps to avoid overwatering and very convenient for people who must be away for periods of time. Plants flower more readily and come into bloom faster. Directions for planting included.

#### THE IDEAL GIFT

#### "NEW HANDCRAFTED 2-PIECE SELF-WATERING POT"

|                                      |                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| STYLE CSW-1                          | Height ..... 4-1/2" overall  |
|                                      | Width ..... 7" overall       |
| Pot Size ..... For 3" or 4" pots     | Price ..... \$14.95 postpaid |
| STYLE CSW-2                          | Height ..... 3-1/4" overall  |
|                                      | Width ..... 5-1/2" overall   |
| Pot Size ..... For 2-1/4" or 3" pots | Price ..... \$10.95 postpaid |

#### NEW ... MINI SIZE

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| Height ..... 3-1/2" overall |
| Width ..... 5" overall      |
| Price ..... \$8.95 postpaid |

#### GROW-LITE FLUORESCENT STAND

An ideal fluorescent light fixture to grow choice African violets. Gray top, black wrought iron legs, height is adjustable from 12" to 24". Light fixture comes complete with 2-20 watt Gro-Lux tubes. App. size 24" high, 24" long and 13-1/2" deep. May be used with an automatic timer. \$49.95 postpaid.



#### "SUNLIGHTER" SPACE-SAVER STANDS

May be operated with automatic timer. Each stand includes only one top bracket. 2-tray gray Sunlighter is 30" high x 24" long x 14" deep. Steel tube frame with 2 removable shatter-proof, polystyrene trays in choice of gray or light green which hold about 50 - 2-1/4" pots. \$34.95 postpaid. W. of Omaha, add 10%.

(Lights not included, see below.)

4-tray gray Sunlighter (pictured) is 55" high x 24" long x 14" deep. Steel tube frame with 4 removable shatter-proof, polystyrene trays in choice of gray or light green which hold about 144 - 2-1/4" pots. \$62.95 postpaid. W. of Omaha, add 10%.

(Lights not included, see below. One light fixture needed for each tray level.)

8-tray gray Sunlighter is 55" high x 24" long x 27" deep. Steel tube frame with 8 removable shatter-proof, polystyrene trays in choice of gray or light green which hold about 288 - 2-1/4" pots.

\$74.95 postpaid. West of Omaha add 10%. (Light fixtures not included, see below. One light fixture needed for each tray level.)

#### FLUORESCENT FIXTURES FOR SUNLIGHTER STANDS

Fixture with two 15 watt Gro-Lux tubes (for use with any tray Sunlighter) ..... \$34.95 postpaid

One light needed for each level. Each light adjusts up and down for optimum distance from plant foliage.

**AUTOMATIC TIMER**—For use with fluorescent lights that have "rapid start" ballast. Capacity 875 watts. Can be set to go on or off automatically

\$19.95 postpaid

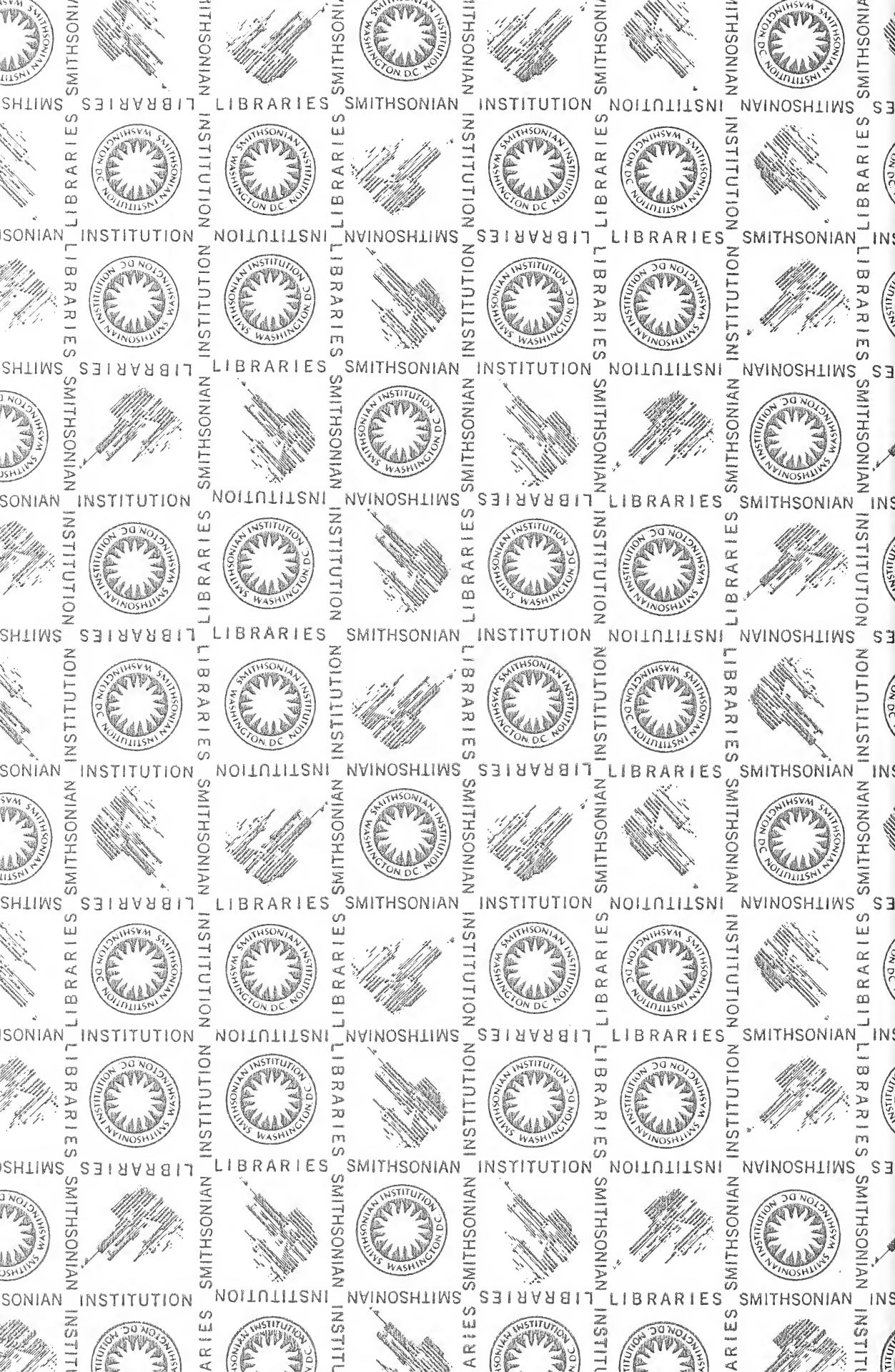


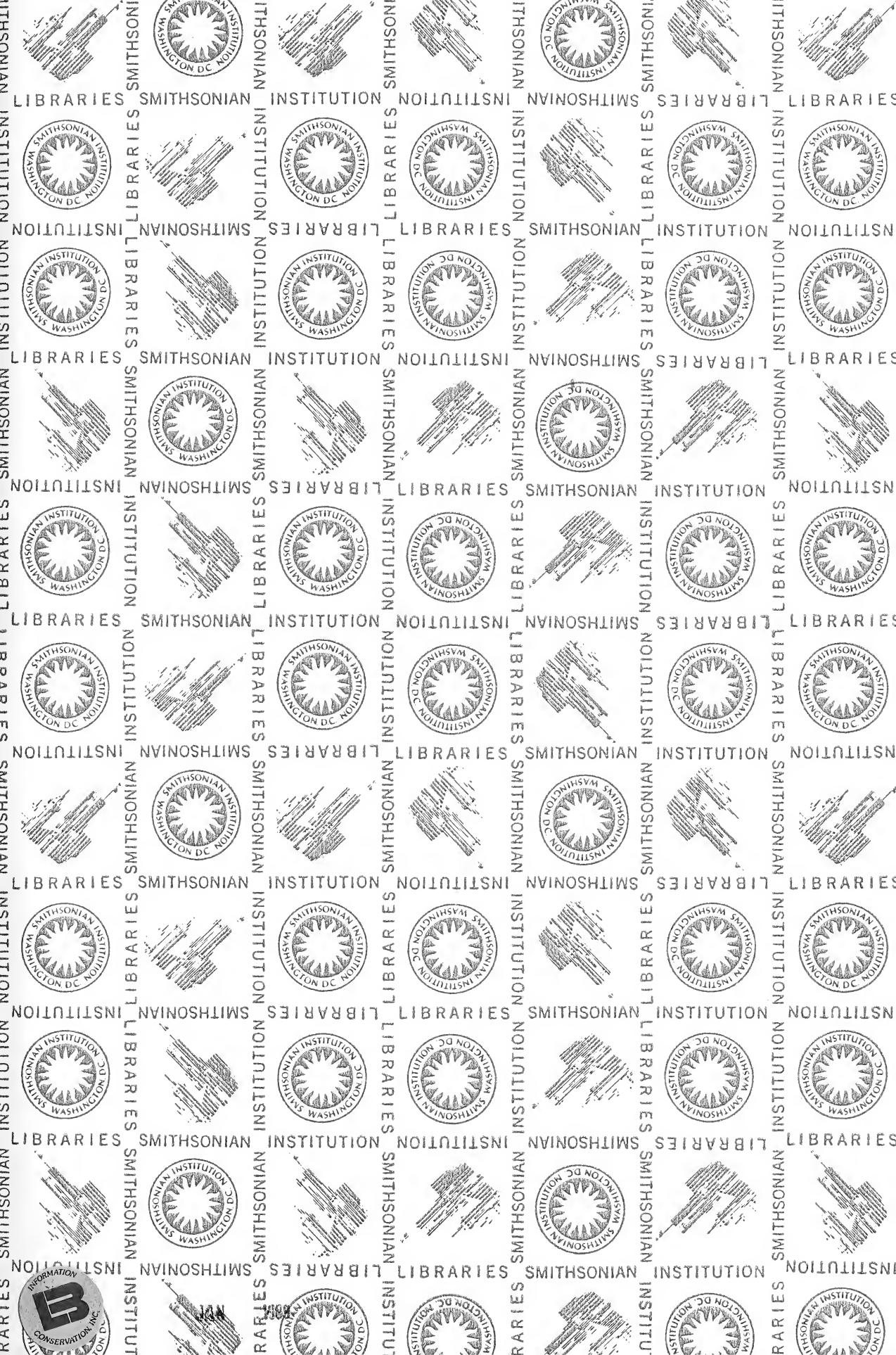
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